

BEFORE THE SANTA ROSA & SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS  
NATIONAL MONUMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In the matter of: )  
 )  
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS )  
 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Palm Desert, California

Saturday, April 6, 2002

(CONDENSED COPY)

Reported by:  
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1 APPEARANCES:  
2 For the Monument Advisory Committee (MAC):  
3 LARRY CHRISTOPHER GRAFTON  
4 Senior Planner  
5 City of Indian Wells  
6  
7 BOB LYMAN  
8 Regional Office Manager  
9 County of Riverside  
10  
11 WILLIAM (GARY) WATTS  
12 District Superintendent  
13 California Department of Parks and Recreation  
14  
15 ROBERT BROCKMAN  
16 Director of Community Development  
17 City of Rancho Mirage  
18  
19 JEFFREY MORGAN  
20 Local Conservation Organization  
21 Sierra Club  
22  
23 DANELLA GEORGE  
24 Designated Federal Official  
25 Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains  
National Monument Manager  
EDWARD KIBBEY  
Chairman  
Building Industry Association  
FRANK BOGERT  
Former Mayor  
City of Palm Springs  
RUTH WATLING  
Pinyon Community Council  
BILL HAVERT  
Director  
Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy  
TERRY HENDERSON  
Councilmember  
City of La Quinta

1 APPEARANCE (continued):  
2 BARY FREET  
Palms Springs Fire Chief  
3 Resident of Cathedral City  
4 BARBARA GONZALES-LYONS  
Tribal Council Vice Chair  
5 Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
6  
7 Staff and Presenters:  
8 KATIE BARROWS  
Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy  
9  
PETE SORENSON  
10 US Fish and Wildlife Service  
11 CONNELL DUNNING  
Community Planner, Bureau of Land Management  
12  
JIM FOOTE  
13 Recreation Planner, Bureau of Land Management  
14 TOM DAVIS  
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
15  
JIM KENNA  
16 Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management  
Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office  
17  
LAURIE ROSENTHAL  
18 District Ranger, San Jacinto Ranger District  
USDA Forest Service  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

1 PUBLIC SPEAKERS:

2

RAY BARMORE

3

JOE INGRAM

4

JOHN WOODS

5

GAYLE CADY

6

NICK STEFFANOFF

7

DENA BARMORE

8

RAY BARMORE

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Palm Desert, California

Saturday, April 6, 2002

9:12 a.m.

CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Good morning. We do not have an official court reporter. We will have to go slowly and understand certain limitations. By the way, three people have signed up, and you will have to speak slowly and distinctly so that our reporter can catch up.

MR. HAVERT: I've brought a sign-in sheet, for the record.

MS. GEORGE. And Elena is taking notes.

CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Go ahead and I will call the role. Please state your name and "present."

MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Barbara Gonzales-Lyons, present.

MR. FREET: Bary Freet, present.

MS. HENDERSON: Terry Henderson, present.

MR. HAVERT: Bill Havert, present.

MS. WATLING: Ruth Watling, present.

MR. BOGERT: Frank Bogert, Palm Springs.

CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Are you present?

MR. BOGERT: I think I'm present.

CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Ed Kibbey, present.

MR. BROCKMAN: Bob Brockman, present.

1 MR. MORGAN: Jeffrey Morgan, present.

2 MR. WATTS: Gary Watts, present.

3 MR. LYMAN: Bob Lyman, present.

4 MR. GRAFTON: Larry Grafton, City of Indian  
5 Wells, present.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We do have a quorum and this  
7 meeting is called to order. First item on the agenda is  
8 public comments. We have three persons signed up.  
9 Limit your comments to five minutes, and if you have  
10 written comments, please give them to our reporter.

11 Our first speaker is Ray Barmore. Welcome.

12 MR. BARMORE: Thank you for this opportunity to  
13 talk with you this morning. My main comment is that  
14 this is supposed to be a recreational Monument, not a  
15 preservational Monument.

16 I am concerned that we are headed into a  
17 preservationist's direction. I am concerned about  
18 designations such as Wild and Scenic Rivers, those  
19 designations only open up opportunities for litigation.  
20 For example, the Center for Biological Diversity is  
21 currently suing the Federal government for failing to  
22 follow through -- and managing cattle and logging. I  
23 would like to see all current uses remain as were told  
24 when the Monument was enacted.

25 On land acquisition, I am not in favor of any



1 more acquisition. The federal agencies don't have the  
2 money for lands that they do have. I have been working  
3 with the Forest Service and BLM for over a year and they  
4 don't have money for trials, fuels, modification. If we  
5 can't afford to maintain what we have, don't buy more  
6 land. Moreover, the federal government reimburses the  
7 county only a small percentage of the lost tax revenue,  
8 causing my taxes to go up. If BLM can't manage the  
9 lands they already have, I would oppose any more land  
10 acquisition.

11 Access to public land is a big concern. There  
12 are only two public roads outside of Highway 74:  
13 Sawmill Road and Santa Rosa Mountain Road. Both of  
14 these roads are at the higher elevations. In order to  
15 access the lower elevations, I am concerned that those  
16 people with physical disabilities appreciate some sort  
17 of access along the Dunn Road.

18 Also on the trials, the trails that are used  
19 throughout the Monument are extremely popular with  
20 non-motorized users, and I would like to see them to  
21 continue to be available for non-motorized use.  
22 Finally, if you take a quick inventory of facilities,  
23 there are only three toilets. Two are pit toilets at  
24 Pinyon and one is at Santa Rosa Mountains Springs.  
25 Where are the people going to go?

1                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. Our next speaker  
2 is Joe Ingram.

3                   MR. INGRAM: My name is Joe Ingram, and I am  
4 mainly still addressing the Advisory Committee, BLM and  
5 Forest Service to focus on the lawsuit.

6                   More and more, since I've gone to the last  
7 meeting at the Living Desert, the Amici Curiae pertains  
8 to the lawsuit, Center for Biological Diversity, the  
9 Sierra Club and the Public for Environmental Protection  
10 versus Department of the Interior.

11                  I think Lisa Lynn Russell for the Department of  
12 Justice has been responding for BLM back in Washington  
13 D.C. and San Francisco. I have no bone to pick with the  
14 Department of the Interior and the employees out in the  
15 field. We have to deal with what you have as to being  
16 shortchanged by Washington D.C. -- have to keep going --  
17 a clean, open to everyone in the room.

18                  The lawsuit prepared by Miller, Starr and  
19 Regalia and attorney Christian M. Carrigan of Walnut  
20 Creek are responding to the lawsuit from a different  
21 perspective and is responding to a different geographic  
22 area, places I haven't heard of such as Desert Tortoise  
23 not Bighorn sheep. What he is responding to overlaps  
24 with our areas and can see the fallacy. The BLM is  
25 being set up as a sucker.

1           As I was on my way down from the mountain, I  
2   saw Bighorn Sheep Ambassador, Glenn Lorton, and he is  
3   sitting along the highway and I had a thought. I waved  
4   at him. Here's Glenn Lorton, a BLM employee as an  
5   ambassador, sitting along the highway, and he is put in  
6   that position.

7           The \$500 toilet seat that has gone down in  
8   history -- the \$10 toilet seat that we paid \$500. The  
9   Bighorn sheep ambassadors are forced to sit along the  
10   highway squandering funds. Reminds me of the \$500  
11   toilet seat forced upon BLM by the lawsuit. And what's  
12   even more remarkable is that it is right at the entrance  
13   of the National Monument Visitor Center, where people go  
14   to learn about the Monument.

15          As you go to the Visitor Center, you realize  
16   that BLM has no money to run the Visitor Center. They  
17   have to keep the pamphlets in the bathroom, keep garden  
18   tools in the water closet. It is not suited for the  
19   purpose now and for the National Monument. Have no  
20   money to do anything with that, I'm seeing.

21          CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Mr. Ingram, I have already  
22   given you an extra minute. You need to wrap this up.

23          MR. INGRAM: Everybody needs to read this. It  
24   is really important, whoever Christian Carrigan is, he  
25   is right on the point.

1                   I am disappointed in the Coachella Valley  
2   Mountains Conservancy and the cities as I read their  
3   responses. Not even close -- have been let down by the  
4   local agencies. I can understand why BLM and the Forest  
5   Service and the University of California don't respond  
6   because they are on salary pension -- I am  
7   self-employed -- working to retire and get out of the  
8   system, therefore, they are not entitled to voice their  
9   opinion. Why a non-profit would not stand up as this  
10  law firm has done and speak against this travesty?

11                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. Our next speaker  
12  is John Woods.

13                  MR. WOODS: Good morning. My name is John  
14  Woods and I am speaking on behalf of the Coachella  
15  Valley Trails Council and as a resident of the Alpine  
16  Village. The Pinyon Community is the only one  
17  surrounded by the National Monument. I believe we  
18  should keep as many trails open as possible for all  
19  non-motorized uses. I would like to see what we can do  
20  in joining agencies responsible for maintaining those  
21  trails, as well as volunteers to help maintain those  
22  trails. We are also looking at the construction of new  
23  trails.

24                  I am concerned about issues dealing with the  
25  Coachella Valley Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan

1 and issues with Bighorn sheep as far as trail closures  
2 go. We are looking at uses by all users, trail heads,  
3 parking, signage, gate issues. It needs to be addressed  
4 in the plan.

5 In terms of trail construction, there are some  
6 proposed trails given to me by Jeff Wincklepleck of Palm  
7 Desert. I have left a map for display and will have one  
8 in the back of the room. This is a trail system  
9 designed to go from the Art Smith to Lake Cahuilla in La  
10 Quinta and the Coachella Valley Recreation Department.  
11 It is an ambitious and fortuitous trail.

12 Other peripheral trails we are looking at are  
13 important for the whole trail system, for people who  
14 live here or people visiting the Monument. This is the  
15 biggest reason for the people to look at the Monument.  
16 And as both a member of the Trails Council and Alpine  
17 Village, I would like to echo what Ray said about Dunn  
18 Road. It is the only accessible area in the Monument.  
19 It is also an escape route for the Pinyon resident and  
20 the only access for emergency vehicles.

21 I urge the Advisory Committee to work as hard  
22 as they can with BLM to try to maintain that access. I  
23 think that covers the issues. We are the only community  
24 surrounded by the National Monument. Also, concerns  
25 with private property ownership are big in that area. I

1 don't know if the Committee can address that. I hope it  
2 stays a National Monument and doesn't become a National  
3 Park.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. Any others who  
5 would like to speak who did not sign? Hearing none, we  
6 close the first session of public comments. Although  
7 not on the agenda, are there Committee members who wish  
8 to comment on public comments?

9 Now, turning to the review of the last meeting  
10 Minutes. You all have a copy of the approved Minutes.  
11 It is not the purview of the Committee to approve the  
12 Minutes. They are approved as written and presented for  
13 your information.

14 MS. DUNNING: The Minutes are also available on  
15 the BLM web page. Although not functional right now,  
16 the web site will be ready in a couple of weeks. If you  
17 would like a copy sooner, e-mail me at  
18 cdunning@ca.BLM.gov.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Did everyone hear that?

20 Very briefly, we will go over the minutes. We  
21 had a representative from Congresswoman Mary Bono's  
22 office, Linda Waltrip, and we went over meeting goals  
23 and objectives. We had an overview of the landscape and  
24 the significance of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto  
25 Mountains. We had an election. We were given a status

1 of the Monument plan. We outlined our operating rules,  
2 and we set the schedule and times of the meetings for  
3 the remainder of the year, which were duly published in  
4 the Federal Register.

5 Any questions on the minutes?

6 MS. HENDERSON: Would you please explain why  
7 there is no approval process?

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Since we had a court  
9 reporter, the information provided at the meeting is  
10 believed to be accurate. They are sent to the Chairman  
11 to check for glaring errors and omissions, which I  
12 reviewed and found very few. The Minutes are sent back  
13 corrected. The reason for it is so that the public has  
14 the Minutes as soon as possible. In the future, we will  
15 get the Minutes sooner. We can say we are all learning.

16 MR. BOGERT: Let's talk about how to approach  
17 the media and the public, haven't seen anything about  
18 this in the newspaper and media.

19 MS. GEORGE: We did a press release e-mailed  
20 some time ago to Lucas Velusch of the Desert Sun, and I  
21 saw the news release in today's paper. Doran Sanchez,  
22 Public Affairs in the district office sent the press  
23 release to all the papers. We are working to improve  
24 and build relations with the media. One of the things  
25 we would like to do is have a media tour about the

1 National Monument.

2 MS. DUNNING: In addition, we have a mail list  
3 of 400 people. We plan to send notices about upcoming  
4 meetings and we would like to increase the number of our  
5 mail list.

6 MR. FREET: Notice about this meeting was also  
7 published in the Federal Register.

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any more comments or  
9 questions? On to housekeeping/updates on one-year  
10 appointments and per diem.

11 MS. GEORGE: I would like to thank members of  
12 the Monument Advisory Committee and the public for  
13 coming today. We apologize for the court reporter.  
14 Thanks to Al Muth for putting together a speakers'  
15 series at the Living Desert last March, we now have a  
16 Notice on Intent published in the Federal Register for  
17 the Monument planning process. We want to orient the  
18 meetings to interface with the public to help us build  
19 the Monument plan.

20 In today's agenda, which you have a copy of,  
21 there's a lots of topics to do for the Monument plan.  
22 After a review of the last meeting Minutes, we cannot  
23 have a sub-committee without following FACA rules, which  
24 means a Federal Register notice, just like this meeting.

25 We can have work groups and task groups. This



1 has gone through two court decisions in Washington D.C.  
2 GSA published the final rules. Task groups can gather  
3 information, conduct research for presentation to the  
4 Committee, analyze relevant issues and facts, and draft  
5 position papers for deliberation by the Committee.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That apparently is what is  
7 going on.

8 MS. GEORGE: With regards to the reappointment  
9 letters for members with one-year appointments,  
10 hopefully, folks brought those and we can start that  
11 process. There is a reference in Section 7d(2) of the  
12 Monument legislation and chapter 10(e) for reappointment  
13 for three years.

14 Last item for clarification, you should have a  
15 cheat sheet about per diem. For anything under 12  
16 hours, you can get paid for mileage, but not meals. It  
17 is pretty self-explanatory. If you have any questions,  
18 see me.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: How are we doing for lunch  
20 orders?

21 MS. DUNNING: The lunches will be delivered for  
22 those Committee members I was able to talk to and they  
23 can pay me then.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any questions?

25 MR. WOODS: Danella, are you one of the

1 Committee members?

2 MS. GEORGE: I am the National Monument  
3 manager. In accordance with FACA, I am the designated  
4 federal official. My job is to facilitate with the  
5 Monument Advisory Committee, Chair, agendas and other  
6 information.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella must call the  
8 meetings and can at any time adjourn the meeting. Very  
9 powerful.

10 Next up is Katie Barrows to discuss the Trails  
11 alternatives for the multi-species plan and the BLM  
12 California Desert Conservation Area plan amendment.

13 MS. BARROWS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and  
14 members of the Advisory Committee, I would like to  
15 provide you with a status of the Trails plan. As  
16 everyone is aware, the Trails plan is an element of the  
17 Coachella Valley Multi-Species Habitat Conservation  
18 plan, and it is, of course, an important aspect of BLM's  
19 California Desert Conservation Area plan amendment. I'm  
20 not sure everyone is up-to-date and has some familiarity  
21 with the Trails planning process. Would you like a  
22 review of the process?

23 COMMITTEE: Yes.

24 MS. BARROWS: This trail planning process is an  
25 effort involving many jurisdictions and trail user

1 groups. Our initial meeting in August 2000 came after  
2 an open forum at the Living Desert. After that, the  
3 Trails working group was established. Many of you have  
4 been members. The Trails working group is composed of  
5 individuals who reportedly are trail users, trail  
6 riders, members of hiking and biking clubs. There were  
7 representatives from a number of cities, Sierra Club,  
8 Building Industry Association, encompassing a range of  
9 groups. The Trails working group has met for many  
10 months over several years in concert with the BLM and  
11 the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy. They have  
12 formed a range of alternatives. And if I am not  
13 mistaken, you have a copy of those trial alternatives.

14 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We'll check.

15 MS. BARROWS: The effort is to develop a range  
16 of alternatives that can be reviewed environmentally.  
17 Over the last several months, we have tried to develop a  
18 preferred alternative. The focus of that effort is to  
19 use a multi-jurisdictional effort involving all relevant  
20 entities to come up with a preferred alternative for the  
21 Santa Rosa trails. This all will be analyzed in the  
22 CVMSHCP and the CDCA plan amendment.

23 We have had over the last couple of months a  
24 series of meetings that have helped greatly in moving us  
25 forward. We have had meetings with State and Federal

1 Wildlife agencies, many jurisdictions at a collective  
2 meeting in February as well as user groups working to  
3 identify outstanding issues regarding the trails plan.  
4 The array of alternatives range from the no-action  
5 alternative in which trail use would be the same as  
6 today to a range of conditions involving seasonal trail  
7 closures.

8           In February, a series of meetings was set up to  
9 come up with a more refined preferred alternative. That  
10 effort involved many local jurisdiction meetings at the  
11 city of La Quinta with their council study session,  
12 likewise at the city of Palm Springs. We met informally  
13 with other cities at their request. We held an outdoor  
14 meeting with the city of Palm Desert. That effort  
15 involved getting feedback from the jurisdictions to  
16 discuss elements of our process to arrive at a preferred  
17 alternative.

18           At the same time, there has been an effort  
19 involving biologists from the California Department of  
20 Fish and Game, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the  
21 BLM. Their biologists have been meeting to try to look  
22 at the outstanding issues that need to be addressed and  
23 resolved with regards to trails and Bighorn sheep.  
24 These meetings have been productive.

25           Through the Trails working group, there have

1     been a number of folks looking at potential perimeter  
2     trails outside areas most sensitive to Bighorn sheep  
3     along the top of the slopes of the mountains. This  
4     concept was discussed back in '90/'91 when I was  
5     involved in the scenic area process. It is interesting  
6     to see that evolve.

7             The Trails working group asked Mike Schuller to  
8     look at the feasibility of perimeter trails. That  
9     effort has provided a great deal of positive feedback.  
10    We have looked at the La Quinta-Rancho Mirage trail  
11    corridor. We have folks in Cathedral City interested in  
12    a cove trail. Perimeter trails already exist in Palm  
13    Springs. There is not a lot of discussion for  
14    additional trails in Palm Springs. However, in general,  
15    the goal is to find opportunities to create new trails  
16    that provide alternatives for trails that may not be  
17    available on a seasonal basis.

18            In the intervene, we have been looking at  
19    perimeter trails, have met with jurisdiction, have met  
20    with biologists, which has brought us to the point of  
21    being very close to a preferred alternative. The  
22    preferred alternative effort has been intensely focused  
23    in the last month or so -- have formed an alternative  
24    that is still being analyzed by the biologists. These  
25    would be areas where seasonal trail closure would occur.

1           There have been discussions about starting  
2   dates of those closures, ranging from January 1st to  
3   February 15th. The closure could continue during the  
4   lambing season until May or June. Some trails sensitive  
5   to water availability for sheep during summer may be  
6   closed June through September. Some seasonal trail  
7   closure areas would potentially be closed from January  
8   15th through September 30th. At the March 28th meeting,  
9   there was a general agreement that there would be some  
10   sort of seasonal closure period. I have a map in the  
11   lobby and any other additional handouts.

12           So seasonal trail closure may affect many of  
13   the trails, and there could be potential trail closures.  
14   In addition to identifying where perimeter trails can be  
15   provided, some perimeter trails are already in  
16   existence, such as the Lykken Trail in Palm Springs. In  
17   other cases, it might involve the creation of new  
18   perimeter trails. There has not been a final decision  
19   as to when the seasonal closures would take effect  
20   pending availability of perimeter trails. That is still  
21   being evaluated.

22           In Palm Desert, we have an opportunity to build  
23   a trail connecting Palm Desert to Rancho Mirage. One of  
24   the popular trails is the Bump and Grind Mirage Trail in  
25   Rancho Mirage. This trail does not seem to impact sheep

1     habitat like other trails. The Homey-Adams Park has a  
2     trail from Rancho Mirage to Palm Desert as evident on  
3     the map. As another example, in La Quinta we are  
4     looking for perimeter trail opportunities around La  
5     Quinta Cove. There is some very sensitive Bighorn sheep  
6     habitat around La Quinta.

7             CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Could we take a five-minute  
8     break to allow our court reporter who has arrived to set  
9     up and then we can continue?

10            (Brief recess was taken.)

11            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Ladies and gentlemen, now to  
12     our meeting and I appreciate your understanding as we  
13     had problems with our note-taking. For the benefit of  
14     the court reporter, can members of the Committee once  
15     again reintroduce themselves?

16            MR. GRAFTON: Larry Grafton, City of Indian  
17     Wells.

18            MR. LYMAN: Bob Lyman, County of Riverside.

19            MR. WATTS: Gary Watts, California State Parks.

20            MR. BROCKMAN: Bob Brockman, City of Rancho  
21     Mirage.

22            MR. MORGAN: Jeffrey Morgan, Sierra Club.

23            MS. GEORGE: Danella George, National Monument  
24     Manager.

25            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Ed Kibbey, Chairman.

1 MR. BOGERT: Frank Bogert, Palm Springs.

2 MS. WATLING: Ruth Watling, Pinyon Community.

3 MR. HAVERT: Bill Havert, Coachella Valley

4 Mountain Conservancy.

5 MS. HENDERSON: Terry Henderson, City of La

6 Quinta.

7 MR. FREET: Bary Freet, Cathedral City.

8 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Barbara Gonzales-Lyons,

9 Tribal Council member.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Then we'll resume with Katie

11 Barrows.

12 Thank you, Katie, for your understanding.

13 MS. BARROWS: I was reminded that I might

14 introduce myself. My name is Katie Barrows, and I'm the

15 associate director of the Coachella Valley Mountains

16 Conservancy.

17 The Mountains Conservancy is looking for

18 CVAG, the Coachella Valley Association of Government, to

19 prepare the multiple species habitat conservation plan,

20 and together with Jim Foote from BLM, I've been the

21 co-chair, I guess, of the Trails -- Bighorn sheep and

22 Trails Working Group.

23 Anyway, just to continue and finish up, we

24 were -- I was just describing the perimeter trail

25 concept and giving you some examples in La Quinta and



1 Palm Desert, essentially in each of the -- along the  
2 perimeter, we are looking at opportunities for new  
3 trails that would provide alternatives to some of those  
4 trails that will be less available.

5 Just briefly without going into specifics, I'm  
6 going to summarize a few of the things that came out of  
7 the meeting on March 28th, then I know that if you have  
8 specific questions, we could get the material to you  
9 that gives you more detail. As I say, at this point we  
10 are kind of still formulating and are very soon going to  
11 be coming out with a public review draft, which will  
12 include the elements of this Trails plan.

13 So additional to seasonal trail closures and  
14 the perimeter trail areas, one of the other issues that  
15 came up was, could there be an opportunity on some of  
16 the trails that are in seasonal trail closure areas to  
17 be available on a limited basis during the lambing  
18 season?

19 This was a subject of much discussion at our  
20 meeting on March 28th, and I know it has been and  
21 continues to be a subject of considerable analysis by  
22 the biology group by the agency biologists. But, at  
23 least tentatively, there has been an opportunity or a  
24 look at how to make some of the trails that might be  
25 available, for example, on a Tuesday and a weekend day

1 or one or two days during the week.

2 This might include trails such as the Art Smith  
3 Trail, the Wild Horse Trail in Palm Springs, and other  
4 trails where that very, very limited use might be  
5 available for a short period during the lambing season,  
6 not during the entire period but possibly during the  
7 initial January time period.

8 So that's something that the biology group and  
9 the trails -- that trail users and jurisdictions and  
10 others have been working toward and will tentatively be  
11 involved.

12 One other element that the Trails plan  
13 addresses is the opportunity for new trails that may not  
14 actually be in the perimeter. In particular, one trail  
15 that has been discussed over the years is the  
16 possibility of the trail that would connect La Quinta to  
17 Palm Desert. I don't know if you're aware of that  
18 proposal and are interested in, but that's another issue  
19 that's being looked at.

20 There was a discussion in our March meeting  
21 that there might be an opportunity for this kind of  
22 trail to be constructed and avoid some of the sensitive  
23 sheep habitat that occurs in that area. I basically  
24 came out with an alternative group that would go further  
25 to the north in the vicinity of Eisenhower Mountain. At

1     this time, the biologists and trail builders are helping  
2     to look at whether that kind of opportunity exists.  So  
3     we are analyzing and evaluating that kind of  
4     possibility.

5             I didn't intend to go into a great more detail.  
6     In summary, I think we have made a tremendous amount of  
7     progress.  There's been a great sense of cooperation  
8     over the last several months to really try to make  
9     something that will work, a lot of time put in by the  
10    various entities.

11            As I've described already, the Trails plan is  
12    part of the multiple species process and will be in the  
13    process of dealing with that and handled through that  
14    process.  If you had particular questions, of course,  
15    you can contact any of the folks involved in that, but  
16    the place where we really try to discuss these issues is  
17    at the Project Advisory Group meetings that are part of  
18    the multiple species planning effort, and those will  
19    take place on the third Thursday of the month.  I don't  
20    have an April date --

21            MR. HAVERT:  The fourth Thursday.

22            MS. BARROWS:  The fourth Thursday?  I don't  
23    even have the date for it.

24            Anyway, if you needed information, I'm sure  
25    your staff will be able to provide that to you, but the

1 Project Advisory Group is a forum where every element of  
2 the multiple species plan including the Trails plan is  
3 discussed in great depth, and I'm fairly certain there  
4 will be an update on the Trails plan at the next meeting  
5 on April, later part of April.

6 MS. BARROWS: At this time I would like to  
7 answer any questions?

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Bary?

9 MR. FREET: The proposed closure of January  
10 15th to September 30th, is that predicated solely on the  
11 lambing season?

12 MS. BARROWS: It's involved in the lambing  
13 season for the first part of it, from January 15 through  
14 approximately May 30th, June 1st. During the summer  
15 months, a number of the trails are adjacent to or impact  
16 sensitive water resources. At the same time, the  
17 biologists have brought to our attention that that's a  
18 very sensitive period for the sheep in terms of their  
19 sort of stress to the conditions in the environment.

20 So at least at this time, the focus of the  
21 summer month period through September is water resources  
22 and mountain-related concerns.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Just a point, each of you  
24 when you speak, the red button down there, please turn  
25 it on so it turns your microphone on.

1 Any questions over here? Bob?

2 MR. BROCKMAN: Katie, has there been any  
3 discussion gathered in the work group about how these  
4 trail -- seasonal trail closures might be enforced?

5 MS. BARROWS: Well, that's another element that  
6 we are developing at the same time, but that is one of  
7 the challenges. Since you might be aware, there has  
8 been a program of sheep ambassadors that are present, at  
9 this time, during a period now where we have an informal  
10 or voluntary trail closure. Sheep ambassadors who are  
11 staff with the BLM are out on the trails, it's my  
12 understanding that that kind of program will continue.  
13 I think we're going to, as part of that whole Trails  
14 plan process, need to describe the implementation and  
15 how it will actually be effective.

16 Certainly one element of that will be a focus  
17 on an educational program that helps people to  
18 understand, working through everything from the Visitor  
19 Center on Highway 74 to concierges and other entities  
20 that are actually sending people out to use trails to  
21 educate folks about those seasonal trail closures. But  
22 certainly in terms of enforcement, it's my understanding  
23 at least, that a program like the sheep ambassador  
24 program will continue where those folks opposed to that  
25 trail, trail heads and trail starting points and

1       advising individuals of these seasonal trail closures.

2               MR. BROCKMAN:   What about the self-permitting  
3       system, has that been discussed?

4               MS. BARROWS:   Yes.   One of the things that will  
5       probably provide an nice opportunity to get some  
6       feedback on trial uses, we're looking at the idea of a  
7       self-permitting system, perhaps any trail head such as  
8       we currently have up on the Cedar Springs Trail and is  
9       used in a lot of other areas where folks would simply  
10      complete a permit and drop it in a box, we're  
11      investigating the possibility of permitting maybe over  
12      the internet or in some way folks could obtain a permit.

13              We haven't refined that exact, whether they  
14      have to physically go to a location like the BLM office  
15      or the Visitor Center and get a permit, or there are  
16      alternatives, but certainly the concept of a  
17      self-permitting situation is one we think will be a real  
18      positive and might actually provide some feedback on  
19      trail use.

20              CHAIRMAN KIBBEY:   Larry?

21              MR. GRAFTON:   Larry Grafton.   I'm concerned  
22      that I just heard that you're planning a possible trail  
23      head up in the area of Mount Eisenhower.   Has anybody  
24      contacted the city and talked to the staff about whether  
25      this is do-able?

1 MS. BARROWS: I would certainly say that's one  
2 of the steps that needs to be taken, whether it's  
3 occurred yet, I'm not sure. This is a fairly new  
4 concept that's just come up in the last couple of weeks,  
5 and we're not specifically talking about going to  
6 Eisenhower Mountain, but that's sort of a standard for  
7 our location.

8 Generally, the idea is to potentially route a  
9 trail further to the north than a proposal involving  
10 more or less going from the Visitor Center in Palm  
11 Desert over the hill and then sort of over the hill  
12 again into La Quinta.

13 MR. GRAFTON: I would suggest you do it sooner  
14 than later. Also, to the map, I think the boundaries to  
15 the city of Indian Wells are wrong, they go much further  
16 up the mountains than is shown. Probably about a year,  
17 year and a half, we were contacted by the Palm Desert  
18 staff, and at a staff level we have some road issues  
19 with those trails going through the city and we asked  
20 the staff to find the location concerning that. They  
21 are not, so that's something that needs to be addressed.

22 MS. BARROWS: Great. Okay.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any questions?

24 I might comment, Katie, perhaps you might  
25 involve the cities specifically in the planning process

1     when the Trails Committee meets or a sub-Committees  
2     meets, that each one of the cities be notified so they  
3     can attend. This not the first time that I've heard the  
4     city say, "Oh?" I think we have a communications  
5     breakdown there.

6             You mentioned in your comments that during the  
7     closure periods of January through September, you might  
8     have certain days that you would be allowed hiking at  
9     certain hours. How would the public know of this, and I  
10    speak to the general public, the visiting public, those  
11    who come in on a Thursday and stay the weekend, how  
12    would they know of these special openings?

13            MS. BARROWS: I think you highlight one of the  
14    challenges of this kind of program. I think definitely  
15    we are going to need a signage program at all of the  
16    trails that would indicate those kinds of things, but in  
17    order also to avoid folks arriving at a trail with the  
18    expectation of being able to use it, I think it's going  
19    to involve a more significant education and outreach  
20    program.

21            That issue is being taken into account in  
22    evaluating this possibility. This, really, proposal  
23    came from trail users groups and jurisdictions who asked  
24    for an opportunity to have some access to the trails on  
25    a limited basis, but you point out one of the challenges



1     that we will certainly focus on. I would presume  
2     getting out to the concierges, and I would presume we're  
3     going to have educational materials and brochures that  
4     really focus attention on what trails are available for  
5     use.

6             Certainly, at the same time we're going to be  
7     encouraging people to use some of these alternative  
8     trails as we bring in our new perimeter trails,  
9     directing their attention there. I think it's  
10    definitely something we need to make sure we cover,  
11    because obviously a significant element of our trail  
12    users are short-term visitors and short-term residents.

13            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: As you know, and I think the  
14    public is aware of, relatively recently we've become  
15    aware of the actual location of the sheep and where they  
16    are actually doing these things. Is the trail group  
17    using this type of information in perhaps sighting these  
18    new trails or opening up some of the older established  
19    trails?

20            MS. BARROWS: Right, yes. I think a very  
21    focused effort has been in sort of the evolution of this  
22    process and earlier alternatives that were brought out  
23    for the working group to look at over the intervening  
24    time frame -- it's been a while, couldn't say -- but  
25    somewhere, six months, 10 months, whatever. There's

1     been a great deal of focus on the part of the biologists  
2     from the wildlife agencies to look at those locations,  
3     that locational information, and most of the maps that  
4     the working groups are looking at now describe that.

5             And here are some of the sheep location  
6     information. In fact, some of the trails that are now  
7     being proposed as open on a year-round basis, the  
8     decision to do that has been based on that sheep data,  
9     so it's being very effectively used at this time.

10            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, Gary?

11            MR. WATTS: You had mentioned that the limited  
12     openings were at the request of the user groups, I  
13     think, for the cities. I'm curious what the biologists'  
14     response to the need to close the trail for sheep, is  
15     that on a basis for that time period, what was their  
16     response to a limited opening?

17            MS. BARROWS: Well, I think -- I think there's  
18     been a significant effort on the part of the biologists  
19     to recognize the interest of trail user groups in trying  
20     to accommodate to a level that allows that. I think --  
21     I wouldn't speak for all the biologists because I'm not  
22     a sheep biologist, but I think in general the message  
23     they sent to us is that some of these areas are  
24     sensitive enough that they would prefer to see them  
25     closed on a more longer term.

1           But also recognizing that there's a demand for  
2 trail use and we need to develop some compatibility, one  
3 of the things that the biologists look at is are there  
4 areas where the sheep -- where that impact of a trial is  
5 perhaps less sensitive. Or perhaps from my  
6 understanding, and I'm not a sheep biologist, but that  
7 sheep might become acclimated or accommodated to a  
8 certain level of use as they are probably are now.

9           So this limited use is actually being looked at  
10 not for the entire lambing season, but sort of for the  
11 shoulder period earlier in the lambing period and  
12 perhaps towards the end. So there still would be a  
13 period during the lambing season where those sensitive  
14 trails would be completely closed, but recognizing that  
15 not all lambs -- there's a full range and they are kind  
16 of looking at on the edges of maybe allowing this kind  
17 of use.

18           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think the next presenter  
19 can help us out on that. Are there any other questions?  
20 Katie, thank you very much.

21           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Our next representative is  
22 from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Peter Sorenson,  
23 for the USFWS expectation for the Monument plan  
24 regarding Peninsular ranges, Bighorn sheep and other  
25 threatened and endangered species.

1                   MR. SORENSON: I've got some handouts. In  
2 addition to those handouts, I've brought a box of the  
3 recovery plans if you haven't gotten copies today.

4                   Okay. Well, Danella and I talked a little bit  
5 about how it might be constructive to provide an  
6 overview of the Bighorn recovery program, so I put  
7 together a brief synopsis of the recovery planning  
8 process and the recovery plan itself, which will be one  
9 of the handouts.

10                  We can focus on any of the aspects on here that  
11 the Committee is interested in. I don't know if it's  
12 the best use of our time for me to systematically go  
13 through here and along a type of monologue, I can  
14 certainly do that. I can summarize as briefly as I can,  
15 maybe with the idea of maximizing the opportunity for  
16 questions and answers. There's some flexibility about  
17 how to structure this, and I don't know if there's any  
18 preferences on the part of the Committee or not, or  
19 maybe I should just launch into and invite you to  
20 interrupt me at any time.

21                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think that will probably be  
22 the best.

23                  MR. SORENSON: Okay. The sheep, of course, was  
24 listed back in March of 1998, and just prior to that  
25 when we were getting signals from within the department

1     that a listing was starting to look possible, we  
2     assembled a working group of biologists to try to get a  
3     head start on putting together a recovery-type plan,  
4     kind of continuing via lens and the Forest Services and  
5     the other state agencies that a population plan, it has  
6     been ongoing throughout the early to mid-nineties, whose  
7     design, I think, was probably to provide a recovery  
8     program if the sheep didn't get listed.

9             Anyway, when it became apparent that this  
10    listing was going to happen, we started organizing our  
11    efforts to put together a recovery team. And in your  
12    handout there, you can see the composition of that  
13    initial team. We tried to put together a  
14    multi-disciplinary group that represented a wide range  
15    of skills, knowledge, expertise, both in research and  
16    land management, agency administration, and a know-how  
17    at the local, state and federal levels.

18            And you can see the list there, it focused  
19    mainly on people familiar with the Peninsular ranges,  
20    but also some outside interests too. And to make sure  
21    that those outside -- that those biologists familiar  
22    with the Bighorn sheep from other parts of their desert  
23    range were included in the development of the recovery  
24    plan. We sent a draft out for peer review and agency  
25    review before it went out for the public review.

1           The peer review team is -- I think I can  
2     remember most of the peer reviewers. It was Phil  
3     Hedrick from the University of Arizona, who is the  
4     geneticist, Rob Rayme from Colorado State, a geneticist,  
5     Paul Krausman from the University of Arizona who was a  
6     kind of a behavior and habitat specialist, Chuck Douglas  
7     from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Gayle Toll  
8     from the University of Idaho, and I'm probably  
9     forgetting one or two, but the idea was to branch  
10    outside of those most familiar with the peninsular  
11    ranges, and like I say, get a wider range of input into  
12    the plan.

13           We incorporated their comments and addressed  
14    them in the draft that went out to the public, as well  
15    as in the final recovery plan as they participated in  
16    the public comment period as well.

17           So the recovery plan was issued in, I think,  
18    October of 2001, and the overall design was pursuant to  
19    a settlement agreement with the courts, get that  
20    approved to guide the critical habitat designation  
21    process, which followed hopefully on the heels  
22    timing-wise -- according to the court settlement,  
23    critical habitat was supposed to be designated in  
24    December of 2001, but by virtue of an executive office  
25    decision -- I guess it was with the new administration

1 in the executive branch, there was some delays that  
2 affected that court order so I don't think the critical  
3 habitat was actually designated until February of 2002.

4           Anyway, the purpose of the recovery team  
5 primarily was to prepare a recovery plan including the  
6 delisting and recovery criteria that's specified in  
7 there, and then to advise the participating agencies on  
8 an as-needed basis as far as sheep management issues, as  
9 well as to conduct research as well. Along with the  
10 Fish and Wildlife Service, BLM, Forest Service, Fish and  
11 Game, State Parks and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla  
12 Indians, who were all represented on the team, co-signed  
13 the recovery plan in recognition of their participation  
14 and overall agreement with the program that was laid  
15 out.

16           So with that background, I could go into a  
17 brief synopsis of what the recovery plan -- what the  
18 recovery objectives and tasks are in the plan.

19           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I'll stop you for a moment  
20 and see if there's any questions at this point? Go for  
21 it.

22           MR. SORENSON: Okay. The criteria for  
23 downlisting recovery sheep from -- Bighorn sheep from an  
24 endangered species to a threatened species, as you can  
25 see in your handout there, consists of 25 ewes per ewe

1 group distributed in nine geographic areas throughout  
2 the range of the species, which for the purpose of the  
3 listing extends from the San Jacinto Mountains down to  
4 the Mexican border. That population level of 25 ewes  
5 distributed in those nine geographic areas should occur  
6 over a consecutive six-year period.

7 MS. HENDERSON: Did you say the 25 distributed  
8 over the nine, or 25 in each of the nine?

9 MR. SORENSON: 25 ewes in each of the nine  
10 geographic areas. And that criteria was based on the  
11 collective biological understanding of the sheep's  
12 historical distribution and home range and herd memory  
13 throughout the range, their conductivity between ewe  
14 groups and in a minimum tribal population concept.

15 The number-25 adult ewes per ewe group was a  
16 matter of considerable debate, but that number occurs  
17 fairly commonly in other sheep management plans  
18 throughout the West. And because there was kind of a  
19 loose consensus on that throughout the range of Desert  
20 Bighorn, we thought we could make that make sense here  
21 in the Peninsular ranges as well, and there really  
22 wasn't much controversy when it came to peer review or  
23 public review on these numerical criterias, so we  
24 probably came pretty close to being reasonable on those  
25 scores.



1           As far as the delisting criteria to remove  
2   sheep from the list of endangered and threatened  
3   species, that criteria would consist of an overall  
4   population level of 750 individuals throughout the range  
5   consisting of the same geographic breakdown as for the  
6   threatened status of 25 ewes in each of the nine  
7   geographic areas, but that would occur over a 12-year  
8   period instead of the six consecutive years. If you do  
9   your math and you calculate nine times 25, you're not  
10   going to get 750, so what that 750 represents really is  
11   an overall population level including rams and  
12   subliminals.

13           As far as the main recovery task goes, it  
14   represents kind of a checklist that ideally the Monument  
15   Committee would be aware of and advising the Forest  
16   Service and BLM on hopefully being as consistent as  
17   possible with what these recovery tasks consist of,  
18   because I think one of the charges with the  
19   multi-species plan and the Monument Advisory Committee  
20   and the Monument management plan would be to achieve  
21   sheep recovery. So a reasonable starting part would be  
22   to look to the plan and see what it has to say about  
23   important tasks that need to be done to achieve those  
24   downlisting and delisting criteria that I just  
25   described.

1           As with most endangered species, habitat loss  
2   and threats are typically one of the primary reasons for  
3   the need to list in potential endangerment, so that  
4   first category of recovery tasks focuses on habitat  
5   protection, acquisition and restoration. There's a lot  
6   going on there in terms of human activities and threats  
7   that influence habitat quality, and maybe rather than  
8   going systematically down the list there, we can focus  
9   questions on any of those sub-tasks if there's interest  
10   on the part of the Committee members.

11           The next major grouping of recovery tasks would  
12   be management of the habitat in terms of direct and  
13   indirect effect of human disturbance, poisonous or  
14   invasive exotic plants, livestock raising, those various  
15   kinds of human uses that can directly or indirectly  
16   reduce habitat quality for Bighorn sheep. There's quite  
17   a few issues there that, you know, a fair amount of  
18   attention should be focused on.

19           On the second page there, there's another group  
20   of tasks focusing on reducing mortality rates, and a lot  
21   of progress has been made on that recently thanks to the  
22   cooperation of the city of Rancho Mirage and the  
23   landowner groups there and agencies. We've made good  
24   progress on coming up with the regional fencing design  
25   that will exclude sheep from urbanized areas, which have

1     been a source of high mortality in the sheep in the  
2     past.

3             The objective there is to encourage wilder  
4     behavior on the part of the sheep, get them back up into  
5     the hills where they belong instead of in people's  
6     backyards, and reduce their dependency on artificial  
7     sources of food and water, which places them in  
8     dangerous situations where there's any number of  
9     mortality sources that have been depleting the  
10    population there.

11            Then another factor in there is maintaining  
12    captive breeding capability, which most of you are aware  
13    is provided out of the Bighorn Institute in case there  
14    are severe population declines, so that we have got the  
15    capability to intervene by introducing animals to  
16    prevent a ewe group from blinking out. Once a wild ewe  
17    group blinks out, memory -- herd memory is what they  
18    call it -- of how the sheep use that geographic area is  
19    lost.

20            Given quirks in sheep behavior and their sight  
21    tenacity, if a local population of sheep blink out, any  
22    new sheep that may move into an area really won't know  
23    how to use that home range because they don't know where  
24    the resources, the water and the forage resources are,  
25    the escape cover, all those critical habitat components

1     they depend on. Because the way sheep learn to use the  
2     ranges is the ewes teaching their lambs, and if all the  
3     mothers and the ewes die off, new sheep that enter that  
4     habitat don't know where to go.

5             And behavioral considerations like that explain  
6     ALD towards why sheep are very poor colonizers, why they  
7     have such high degrees of sight fidelity and why it  
8     has a real more significant implication of this if a  
9     sub-population blinks out, then why other animals such  
10    as moose, Mildeer or elk, which in their ecological  
11    adaptations have evolved to exploit new resources.  
12    Like if a burn occurs, they will shift their home ranges  
13    and exploit those resources of food and water whereas  
14    Bighorn sheep are more traditional and set in their ways  
15    and are more adapted to climax blank communities.

16            So the research component, which is the next  
17    category of recovery tasks consists of a number of  
18    subtasks needed to improve our understanding of how  
19    sheep use these local ranges. One of the unique aspects  
20    of sheep in these ranges is that they are tied to the  
21    lowest elevations and lower mountain slopes compared to  
22    Desert Bighorn sheep use of mountain ranges throughout  
23    the rest of the West where sheep typically occur all the  
24    way up to the tops of the mountains and use the full  
25    range of elevational zones available to them.

1                   Here in the Peninsular ranges, sheep are pretty  
2 much restricted to below the zone of Chaparrall and  
3 Pinyon Juniper, which roughly corresponds, I think, to  
4 4,000 feet or so. So they are very much dependent on  
5 the lower elevation slopes where most of the human  
6 activities occur. So that introduces a lot of unique  
7 considerations that aren't fully understood in terms of  
8 our knowledge of sheep habitat, ewes' behavior, and so  
9 forth, and it's a right field for a continued research  
10 as you can see in the various tasks there.

11                   And then, although it usually ends up being  
12 kind of at the end of any kind of recovery program, it's  
13 by no means the least important, and that is getting out  
14 with an education program and getting local, state  
15 government, governments of different kinds as well as  
16 the citizens themselves to better appreciate and  
17 understand what it takes to promote recovery for species  
18 such as Bighorn sheep. So that's -- I could stop there,  
19 I guess.

20                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Let's see if you've raised  
21 any questions in the minds of the Committee members?

22                   MS. WATLING: What is the ratio of rams to ewes  
23 on a population basis?

24                   MR. SORENSON: It's typically pretty close to  
25 50/50 on an overall population basis. To show you how

1 vulnerable ewe groups can become when populations become  
2 depleted, the current ewe group up in Palm Springs, for  
3 example, consists of close to 30 sheep, that only eight  
4 of them are females.

5           So you can see there's a long way to go in the  
6 range of that ewe group to achieve 25 adult ewes as far  
7 as the recovery objective goes. And that's real  
8 difficult when populations decline, that you get this  
9 demographic skew on sex ratios that becomes a major  
10 challenge to recovering population.

11           MS. WATLING: What is the age of maturity for  
12 ewes?

13           MR. SORENSON: Yearlings can -- yearling  
14 females can breed, so over the age of one, they  
15 typically conceive, so that by the time they are two,  
16 they are producing lambs.

17           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other questions? Yes, Frank.

18           MR. BOGERT: Your biologists say that it's a  
19 traumatic experience for a horse riding by sheep. What  
20 kind of a traumatic experience is it when you fly over  
21 with a helicopter, drop a net on them, then jump down  
22 and put a collar on them? If that isn't the most  
23 traumatic experience in the world for the whole herd,  
24 even the helicopter flying over, how do you respond to  
25 that?

1                   MR. SORENSON: I would say that I don't think  
2 the recovery plan or recovery team is focused, in  
3 particular, on horses and pedestrian uses as a  
4 particularly disturbing activity anymore, so then any  
5 other form of human disturbance, in fact, it's probably  
6 less so.

7                   When you look in the scientific literature,  
8 there's conflicting reports about the effects of horses  
9 on sheep. Some papers suggest that it may be kind of  
10 benign or no adverse effect at all and other -- other  
11 authors and other observers, they haven't observed  
12 behavioral disruption to the sheep. It's an open  
13 question, and I think it's not a major contributor to  
14 the problems sheep are facing in the Peninsular ranges  
15 here.

16                  I would agree that the disturbance from  
17 helicopters is far more of a disturbance to sheep, but  
18 to effectively manage wide-ranging large mammals that  
19 are very difficult to track in steep terrain, we need a  
20 sound database, a sound body of information to manage  
21 these species.

22                  The only way you can effectively do that over  
23 the years that the state and federal agencies have  
24 discovered is through a regulatory planatory, because  
25 you just can't track these sheep by having armies of

1 observers up there who would be influencing their  
2 year-long distribution and behavior far more than the  
3 once-a-year disturbance from helicopters.

4 Most of the research associated with  
5 helicopters influencing and radio collaring occurs once  
6 a year, and the agencies have by monitoring their own  
7 research activities have figured out ways to minimize  
8 that disturbance as well as to provide a professional  
9 judgment that is sufficiently minimal that is probably  
10 not representing a limiting factor in the population  
11 group.

12 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, Bob?

13 MR. BROCKMAN: Robert Brockman.

14 Pete, you mentioned the numbers of ewes in the  
15 San Jacinto range. Do you have any figures on the other  
16 eight geographical areas in terms of how far off they  
17 are from the recovery zone?

18 MR. SORENSON: I didn't come with that bit of  
19 information, we have it available.

20 MR. BROCKMAN: Can you characterize it as some  
21 areas being far worse than other geographic areas?

22 MR. SORENSON: The Northern Santa Rosa herd and  
23 the San Jacinto herd are the two lowest population  
24 levels. The sex ratio is pretty close to one-to-one in  
25 the other ewe groups. Palm Springs is the only one



1 where there's a major deformation that way.

2 Some of the ewe groups, especially down in Anza  
3 Borrego, I think probably already meet or exceed that  
4 minimum 25 population objective for adult ewes. Some  
5 are pretty close, some exceed it, and it's typically the  
6 northern end of the range, which coincides with most of  
7 the human activity that the population have been hardest  
8 hit historically and are still reflecting that.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Gary?

10 MR. WATTS: Peter, in terms of captive breeding  
11 and reintroduction, are you reviewing each of the nine  
12 geographic regions separately, for instance, in Palm  
13 Springs it sounds to me like you must be getting close  
14 to considering that option?

15 MR. SORENSON: Right. The recovery team was  
16 considering that option recently, but because there  
17 wasn't adequate disease data available, we decided it  
18 would be more prudent to hold off introducing animals  
19 from other areas into the San Jacintos until we had a  
20 better understanding of disease prevalency and history  
21 within the source and donor population.

22 MR. WATTS: Would you say it's eight or  
23 nine ewes?

24 MR. SORENSON: I believe it's eight currently.

25 MR. WATTS: You can lose that very quickly. I

1 think there's a sense of urgency to consider that  
2 option.

3 MR. SORENSON: There definitely is. And, of  
4 course -- well, one of the other issues involved with  
5 the reintroduction in the San Jacintos, one of the other  
6 considerations has to be made as to whether you would  
7 introduce a totally new group of animals north of Chino  
8 Canyon in the historic range that has been abandoned  
9 since the 1980s, by and large, or whether you would  
10 augment the existing ewe group, which is south of Chino  
11 Canyon, and then rely on natural or passive dispersal  
12 north of Chino in a hope that maybe they would naturally  
13 recolonize their former habitat.

14 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other questions in this  
15 area? Frank?

16 MR. BOGERT: The only ones that we're really  
17 worried about is the Santa Rosa group; is that right?

18 MR. SORENSON: Santa Rosa/San Jacintos. We as  
19 an agency are interested in a range wide of the forestry  
20 ewe groups.

21 MR. BOGERT: What about the inbreeding problems  
22 that you've had with the Santa Rosa group?

23 MR. SORENSON: I'm sorry, did you say, "a  
24 breathing problem"?

25 MR. BOGERT: Inbreeding problem. Because they

1 have been isolated and surrounded, the other rams can't  
2 come in.

3 MR. SORENSON: Rams are wide-ranging and rams  
4 move among ewe groups. We have documented rams moving  
5 from way south in Anza Borrego up to and around Highway  
6 74. It's pretty impressive about how far some of those  
7 rams could move and, of course, when they are moving,  
8 they are spreading their genetic contribution around  
9 during the rout. That is the primary natural adaptation  
10 of Bighorn sheep to avoid inbreeding problems, ram  
11 dispersal between ewe groups.

12 You know, we have two geneticists on the  
13 recovery team who have looked into that issue, and they  
14 have taken extensive genetic samples, and have not  
15 identified any genetic problems to date.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: You've heard this morning the  
17 concern of the public that the Monument be as open as  
18 possible. What is the agency's feeling about going that  
19 extra mile to allow an openness and still not harm the  
20 sheep?

21 MR. SORENSON: The biologist's group that Katie  
22 was talking about was providing biological advice to the  
23 agencies as well as to the Trails group overall. I  
24 think it has done a very good job in trying to balance  
25 the competing interests of what's best for the sheep

1 with the public's interest and right to hike in the  
2 local mountains.

3           It's a very high priority for us because I  
4 think we recognize that if we don't find that balance  
5 for public recreation, you know, the ultimate success in  
6 compliance of the Trails plan is probably going to be  
7 compromised. So personally and as an agency we're  
8 trying to be as open on these issues as we possibly can  
9 be.

10           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: If this Committee were to  
11 make recommendations for new trails and new areas of  
12 public use, does that then require BLM and the Forest  
13 Service to come to you with section 7, or is that  
14 something you can do individually?

15           MR. SORENSON: No, we haven't sat down, the  
16 service hasn't sat down with the BLM or the Forest  
17 Service to discuss how National Monument management  
18 would work relative to section 7. I assume it would be  
19 relatively consistent and typical of our normal section  
20 7 relationship, but there's probably customized ways  
21 that we can make that more efficient and more responsive  
22 to the Monument's needs. We just haven't had a chance  
23 to pursue those yet, since we have been primarily  
24 focused in getting the multi-species plan together.

25           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I understand that. I hope

1 you would be sensitive that this Committee is on a very  
2 fast track ID. We are supposed to have this plan done  
3 or the agency is supposed to have this plan done by  
4 October of next year, and if there was some way that  
5 when this Committee makes suggestions and  
6 recommendations to the Forest Service and BLM, there  
7 could be a way that you can respond quickly so that  
8 we're able then to bounce it back off whatever they are  
9 able to bounce it back off the Committee, and we can  
10 achieve what Congress wanted when they set this  
11 Committee up, and that is to try to get as much positive  
12 public input as possible into the process while still  
13 recognizing the environmental concerns, not just the  
14 sheep, but across the board.

15           Finally, one question, on your map that you  
16 passed out, on the Penisular Bighorn sheep observations,  
17 over what period are these observations and what  
18 percentage are by collar and what percentage are by  
19 hikers?

20           MR. SORENSON: That represents an historical  
21 composite of everything that we could find going back  
22 many, many decades. We solicited old-timers, Dick  
23 Weaver with Fish and Game, everyone that the recovery  
24 team could possibly think of in terms of their academic  
25 and agency colleagues we outreached to.

1                   We pursued outreach opportunities to the  
2   general public too in terms of trying to put together  
3   the most comprehensive database possible within the time  
4   constraints of getting the plan together.

5                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY:  What percentage is for  
6   collars?

7                   MR. SORENSON:  That, I really couldn't  
8   answer.  I think we probably have that information some  
9   place.  I think it's probably the vast majority of them  
10  are from collars.

11                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY:  I think it would be helpful  
12  that perhaps through Danella you might transmit that  
13  answer to the Committee so we would have it to go along  
14  with the map.  Makes it look more meaningful.

15                  MR. SORENSON:  Okay.  And there's some good  
16  interpretation of those docs, I think, in the text on  
17  that map, that would help out a lot.  In fact, that  
18  information may even be in that text, I haven't read it.

19                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY:  I didn't see when I was  
20  quickly going over it, but I could have missed it trying  
21  to listen to you and read it at the same time.  
22  Any other questions from the Committee?  Yes, Bob?

23                  MR. LYMAN:  What is the total population  
24  currently?

25                  MR. SORENSON:  Total population right now is --

1 approximately, it's about 400 individuals.

2 MR. LYMAN: So you're about half way there?

3 MR. SORENSON: Yeah.

4 MR. LYMAN: Thank you.

5 MR. GRAFTON: Larry Grafton. Who do we contact  
6 at your department if we have some observations that we  
7 want to point out that aren't on the map, we have actual  
8 photographs?

9 MR. SORENSON: I should say we would like to  
10 keep this map up to date periodically, and radio collar  
11 data from the last couple of years -- I think over the  
12 year has not been added onto that. We need to keep an  
13 update of maximum utility, and either myself or Dr. Guy  
14 Wagner on our staff would be the appropriate person to  
15 report sightings to.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other Committee comments?  
17 Danella?

18 MS. GEORGE: I want to thank you for coming.  
19 Are there other species that are a particular concern to  
20 the National Monument?

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Are there any other species  
22 of concern within the National Monument?

23 MR. SORENSON: The primary species we'd be  
24 concerned with being dealt with through the  
25 multi-species plan, Tortoise immediately comes to mind

1 as one that may be more extensively distributed in the  
2 mountains than anything else that comes to mind. Triple  
3 Ridge, we know occurs in at least one canyon in the  
4 Santa Rosas and may occur in others. Beyond that --

5 MR. HAVERT: Riperian birds and other wildlife,  
6 essentially. At the higher elevations primarily to  
7 National Forest --

8 MS. GEORGE: I appreciate that. Trying to ask  
9 Fish and Wildlife what they would like to see in the  
10 Monument plan respective of the agency, what the agency  
11 wanted to see addressed in that Monument plan.

12 MR. SORENSON: Yeah. Right now I guess I have  
13 to admit there's quite a bit of confusion in my mind  
14 about how the Monument plan relates to the multi-species  
15 plan, but we can discuss that. Off the top of my head,  
16 I think the multi-species plan will go a long way  
17 towards, or maybe all the way towards addressing our  
18 primary concerns with the agency.

19 MS. GEORGE: Thank you, Pete.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you very much, Pete.  
21 Appreciate it.

22 MR. SORENSON: You're welcome.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Well, it looks like we get to  
24 take a 15-minute break here. We're running about 15  
25 minutes behind so let's return at 11:15, please.



1 (Brief recess was taken.)

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We will call the meeting back  
3 to order. The chief -- I mean Ms. George wants to make  
4 a comment.

5 MS. GEORGE: I want to introduce to the  
6 Monument Advisory Committee our court reporter, and her  
7 name is Rachael Hall, and Rachael is actually a member  
8 of our community. She lives in Palm Desert and she is  
9 going to be reporting our meetings for the next year.  
10 And Rachael has asked that we always say our name before  
11 we speak, as she may have missed a couple of folks, so  
12 please always say your name before you speak. Thank  
13 you.

14 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you very much. Our  
15 next session then is the review of prior plans and the  
16 BLM plan amendment and their relationship to the  
17 Monument plan, Connell Dunning and Elena Miguez of BLM  
18 will present, and any of the Committee members who feel  
19 they would be more comfortable with the audience,  
20 please.

21 MS. DUNNING: I'm going to speak from here, can  
22 everybody hear me okay? This presentation was put  
23 together in part to help people understand the Monument  
24 plan and where we are now in relationship to other  
25 planning processes that are going on. At our last

1 meeting in January, we were requested to provide a bit  
2 more information, I think we had prepared a 10-minute  
3 presentation that turned into about 45 minutes because  
4 we had so many questions. Hopefully, this presentation  
5 will help flush out some of those questions raised at  
6 the last meeting.

7           We will start with just a quick review of the  
8 act and the plan purpose, then we will talk about the  
9 ongoing planning, current planning and the relationship  
10 of those plans to the Monument plan. We will then  
11 address issues covered by other existing plans and how  
12 those will be pulled forward to the Monument plan.  
13 Following that, we will list -- kind of have a  
14 discussion of a preliminary list of issues that we'll  
15 see in the Monument plan, then we will review the  
16 planning process and end with a discussion of  
17 alternative schedules.

18           There's a couple of handouts that go along with  
19 this talk, so if you can pull out this handout -- I know  
20 you have so many today -- but specifically right now,  
21 the handout that has, "How do the following plans relate  
22 to the Monument plan?" at the top. So this is what we  
23 are going to be referring to for most of the talk. Does  
24 everyone have a copy of that?

25           First of all, the most important part of our

1 Monument is that there was an active legislation  
2 designating the Monument. That act, copies of the  
3 legislation here, and I'm sure most of you have seen a  
4 copy of it, and there's copies you can get on our web  
5 page, but this is really the starting point of what we  
6 need to have in the Monument plan. We have to have that  
7 plan completed in three years, so October 24th, 2003 is  
8 a requirement in the legislation. It's good to think  
9 about that as we are talking today, it is a law, and we  
10 have to follow the law, so until that law changes that's  
11 the goal that we are headed towards.

12           The plan ultimately will be signed by BLM's  
13 State Director, Mike Pool, and Forest Service Regional  
14 Director Jack Blackwell. The scope of the plan will  
15 cover federally-managed lands only, so when we finish  
16 with the plan, all the actions in that plan will apply  
17 only to federal lands, only to the Forest Service and  
18 BLM lands that fall within the lines of the Monument.  
19 However, we are having working group meetings, having  
20 the MAC, having the public be a part of the process so  
21 we can have a collaborative process so that when those  
22 actions are presented that apply only to Federal lands  
23 end up in plans, we will have discussions going on in  
24 all of our other jurisdictions that those actions will  
25 be -- they won't be a surprise, we will be working

1 together.

2           It is our purpose to develop a strategy to  
3 provide guidance for the Forest Service and BLM as  
4 agencies to work together to provide a seam of public  
5 service. We need to be consistent with the legislation  
6 and other applicable Federal laws, and we have to work  
7 in coordination with private, tribal, local, State  
8 and other interest groups.

9           So to discuss the ongoing planning, we do have  
10 lots of planning going on in the valley, yeah. It's  
11 kind of confusing for a lot of people, so this is a  
12 presentation to help understand how those other plans  
13 relate to the Monument plan. We have some general plans  
14 out there that are non-federal, individual plans,  
15 cities, jurisdictions, Agua Caliente. We have some  
16 multi-jurisdictional plans going on, habitat  
17 conservation plans that involve many entities, and we  
18 have federal planning going on in BLM and the Forest  
19 Service.

20           General plans that are being developed by  
21 municipalities and cities, Mount San Jacinto plan, for  
22 example, Riverside County, Mount San Jacinto Winter Park  
23 Authority, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, San  
24 Jacinto State Park. These are all plans being developed  
25 individually by these entities, and the Monument plan

1 ultimately will be consistent with each of those  
2 planning efforts. These plans do not apply to federal  
3 lands, but we are working in the planning process to see  
4 what those plans consist of so that the Monument plan  
5 won't have any conflicting information. So we will work  
6 to be consistent with each of those plans.

7 MS. HENDERSON: Terry Henderson, city of La  
8 Quinta. That's an interesting statement when you say  
9 the plans will be consistent. If a city plan has  
10 material in it that is adverse or inconsistent with the  
11 Monument, then how does the Monument plan become  
12 consistent, who overrides who, if that is even the case?

13 MS. DUNNING: Well, the cities and their  
14 current planning processes, the city's plan is moving  
15 ahead and the city's plan will happen, the Monument plan  
16 will happen.

17 If there's conflicting information following  
18 that time period where we already have a plan in both,  
19 then there could be a process of talking and amending  
20 each plan to move towards a point where there's no  
21 conflicting information. But at this stage because  
22 we're just beginning out plan, it's our attempt to meet  
23 with the cities and hope that those actions that we're  
24 proposing on federal lands are not directly in  
25 opposition to what a city's plan may be proposing. That

1     may be so right now.

2             So it's our job to work in that time period to  
3     see what those conflicting things might be, but  
4     ultimately we will end up with a plan that would be an  
5     action that we have laws that we have to abide by that  
6     the cities might not agree with, but we are going to  
7     work to hopefully come to some consistency.

8             Okay. Multi-jurisdictional effort, are we  
9     talking about two multi-jurisdictional planning efforts?  
10    One of them was mentioned by Pete today was also  
11    mentioned by Katie Barrows, that's the Coachella Valley  
12    Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Area Plan, which we  
13    will be referring to as the multi-species plan for the  
14    rest of this talk.

15            The Monument plan will incorporate the  
16    multi-species plan action in order to not jeopardize  
17    issuance of the city's section 10(a) permit. So what  
18    this means, we in the Monument as we are developing our  
19    Monument plan, we would like to incorporate all of the  
20    efforts that are going on right now in a regional  
21    landscape level planning process.

22            We as federal agencies have met with the cities  
23    and the county in our attempt to develop a landscape  
24    level recovery plan for species, it's very  
25    species-oriented. The process that we are doing that is

1 a plan that I will mention coming up in our BLM plan,  
2 but we are working with this multi-species plan very  
3 closely because all of these efforts that are going on  
4 for species, we don't want to recreate, we don't want to  
5 go through again, and we shouldn't have to.

6 If we are speaking with the Fish and Wildlife  
7 Service and making sure that the majority of those  
8 species will be covered. Of course, if there's  
9 something that has been missed, we will pick it up in  
10 the Monument plan, but it's our intent to incorporate as  
11 much as possible for work that is going on in the  
12 multi-species plan.

13 The multi-species plan actions that affect  
14 federal lands must be in conformance with both Forest  
15 Service and BLM plans, and the process that's being  
16 worked out and those persons who are framing this plan,  
17 we are working together to ensure that.

18 As I mentioned, BLM is amending our California  
19 Desert conservation area plan in order to promote this  
20 section 10-A permit for the city. That members, each of  
21 you are encouraged to participate directly with the  
22 planning effort of the multi-species plan as I know I've  
23 seen several of you at those meetings. You do -- you  
24 are experienced, you are being a part of it because your  
25 cities are each signatories in this plan.

1           So the fourth Thursday of every month that is a  
2   great place to become more acquainted with that plan,  
3   and since each of the cities will be signing this plan,  
4   you do have some representation of those of you  
5   representing cities, and the others of you, I can speak  
6   with you and help get you up to speed, who you need to  
7   talk to and that kind of thing, if you would like more  
8   information about that plan.

9           A second multi-jurisdictional plan we are  
10   looking at is the California Department of Fish and Game  
11   and BLM Santa Rosa Mountains Wildlife Habitat Management  
12   Plan. This is a plan that has some Bighorn sheep,  
13   specific wildlife recommendations and decisions, and  
14   it's a completed plan. So this plan is already  
15   completed, was completed in 1980, so some of those  
16   decisions we may be able to pull forward into the  
17   multi-species plan, BLM's plan amendment, and also the  
18   Monument plan.

19          Okay. The third type of planning that is going  
20   on are Federal plans. The Forest Service is currently  
21   working on revising its plan, and it's that plan --  
22   there's public meetings going on now and we do have  
23   Laurie Rosenthal from the Forest Service here who can  
24   answer any other questions that I don't address, but the  
25   Monument plan will be subservient to the San Bernardino



1 National Forest plan. The actions that we propose in  
2 the Monument will conform with that management plan.

3           What's in that management plan are land use  
4 allocation designations, identifying -- I'll give some  
5 examples of what those are in the next slide.  
6 The Monument plan from the Forest Service perspective  
7 will be strategic, kind of an operational plan from a  
8 Forest Service perspective, and those land use  
9 allocation alternatives that I mentioned and I will be  
10 discussing further, those are being discussed at public  
11 meetings being held in conjunction with the overall  
12 Forest Service planning process.

13           The second federal planning going on is BLM's  
14 plan. We are, as I just mentioned previously, we are  
15 working on a plan amendment to the California Desert  
16 Conservation Area plan, and we are working in tandem  
17 with the multi-species plan to ensure consistency and to  
18 achieve those species recovery needs. The CDCA's plan  
19 has land use allocation decisions in support of the  
20 multi-species plan, and those will be brought forward  
21 into the Monument plan.

22           So I have some visuals to help you  
23 hopefully, if that's confusing to you. I made some nice  
24 circles and arrows, and if after I talk about this, if  
25 you have further questions, then we can talk about it

1     because it is a confusing process. Even in talking to  
2     our planners in Washington and at district level and  
3     everybody, they are all kind of, "What?" It's kind of  
4     confusing. We have multi-jurisdictional plans, general  
5     plans, which are non-federal, and BLM's plan amendment  
6     and the Forest Service plan revision.

7             So general plans, we're just striving to have  
8     consistency, and as Terry mentioned, that process is not  
9     completely foolproof, it's not like they already just  
10    happened to be consistent, but the actions we propose in  
11    the Monument plan will only apply to federal lands so  
12    ultimately those city plans are stand-alone plans.  
13    Which actions are being proposed through  
14    federal-planning efforts and will be brought forward to  
15    the Monument plan?

16            So the two federal-planning efforts that we  
17    mentioned, the BLM plan amendment and the Forest Service  
18    plan revision, we've had some very specific questions.  
19    We have talked about pulling ideas forward at our  
20    planning work group meetings and also the last meeting  
21    we had some specific. Questions, what will be pulled  
22    forward exactly?

23            The current BLM plan amendment, we will be  
24    pulling forward motorized-vehicle route designation,  
25    because there's a requirement in our California Desert

1 Conservation Area Plan that we do this, so we will be  
2 designating routes, wild horse and burro land use  
3 designations. This is, again, a requirement for BLM to  
4 establish this. Land health standards, specifically  
5 water quality management, air quality, vegetation, those  
6 kind of things we will be pulling forward from that  
7 planning amendment.

8 In the Forest plan revision, general zoning for  
9 recreation use, that's a part of what they are  
10 addressing in their plan revision. Potential  
11 designations includes primitive, semi-primitive,  
12 non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural  
13 and rural. These are Forest Service designations for  
14 land and this is what their process in their land  
15 management plan is identifying. They will also be  
16 pulling forward management strategies for threatened and  
17 endangered species including Bighorn sheep.

18 So they will be addressing Bighorn sheep and  
19 management strategies in their current planning process  
20 so it's our intention that for the Forest Service lands,  
21 we pull forward what they are already are identifying.  
22 Motorized vehicle route designations, and in addition  
23 the Forest Service has made recommendations to Congress  
24 regarding public request for designating Palm Canyon as  
25 a wild and scenic river and additional wilderness

1 designations near Pyramid Peak. Those requests are  
2 being included in their alternative process, whether or  
3 not they are identified will be a part of that decision  
4 process that hasn't yet been decided, but those are the  
5 planning elements that they are working on right now in  
6 their plan revision.

7           In the case of multi-jurisdictional plans,  
8 which actions are being proposed through  
9 multi-jurisdictional planning and will be brought  
10 forward to the Monument plan? Bighorn sheep habitat  
11 management strategy is being identified through the  
12 multi-species plan, but we also have the Fish and Game  
13 plan from the 1980s to guide us there. Those are  
14 elements that will be pulled forward into the Monument  
15 plan.

16           In addition, as Katie mentioned today, the  
17 Trails management plan is another multi-jurisdictional  
18 effort. The BLM is a part of that, the Forest Service  
19 is apart of that, the cities and the county are a part  
20 of that, so that multi-jurisdictional plan will be  
21 pulled forward into the Monument plan. That includes  
22 provisions to continue recreational use of the Monument  
23 including hiking, camping, mountain-biking, sightseeing  
24 and horseback riding. Those are the elements that Katie  
25 touched on today and will be pulled forward to the

1 extent possible into the Monument plan.

2           So given that those are the sideboards of  
3 things that we will be pulling forward, we now have a  
4 question, well, what's left or, wait, you didn't mention  
5 this and this. We have issues that weren't mentioned in  
6 the previous slides that we hope to pull forward. As  
7 was a part of the discussion of the January meeting,  
8 there are words in the legislation that identify the  
9 establishment and the purpose of the Monument. Taking  
10 those words like providing recreation, biological and  
11 cultural resources, you can take each of those topics  
12 and create questions.

13           This is a list of preliminary issues, and we  
14 see issues as a question, a question that we need to  
15 strive to find an answer for and the answer will be in  
16 the plans. Recreation is an interest of potential issue  
17 to addressing the plan would be what additional  
18 recreational opportunities are available on public lands  
19 while protecting sensitive resources. It's a  
20 preliminary issue that could be brought forward in our  
21 scoping meetings, it could be brought forward to the  
22 MAC.

23           A second one, what can we do to respect,  
24 protect and interpret Native American resources in the  
25 National Monument? What adjustments need to be taken to

1 establish consistency between BLM and Forest Service  
2 management requirements? Forest, how can we manage  
3 increased visitor use in the Santa Rosa wilderness while  
4 protecting wilderness values consistent with the  
5 Wilderness law and regulations? These are the kinds of  
6 questions we view as issues that can be addressed in the  
7 Monument plan.

8           What collaborative management opportunities  
9 exist with Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority, Fish  
10 and Game, local jurisdictions, other interested private  
11 and governmental entities? What collaborative  
12 environmental educational opportunities are there? As  
13 the Monument becomes more popular with visitors, should  
14 the BLM/USFS set visitor supply levels and institute a  
15 permit system? What is the need for public utility  
16 rights-of-way?

17           These are called out specifically, for example,  
18 the public utility rights-of-way, addressing the need  
19 for those is pulled out specifically in the  
20 legislation. This is the way to pull that out of the  
21 legislation and say, okay, we will be addressing this to  
22 the Monument plan because it's written in the  
23 legislation. What maintenance of roadway, jeep trails  
24 and paths is needed? We generally allow for hunting and  
25 fishing within the Monument, and how will we do that?

1 In consultation with Fish and Game, is there a need for  
2 zones and time periods where such uses may be disallowed  
3 to protect public safety, administration, public use and  
4 enjoyment. If there's not, we need to use the Monument  
5 plan as the form for addressing these questions.

6 The third, insert your issues here. This is  
7 where we will be going to public meetings and getting  
8 more issues that are brought forward. We will be  
9 looking to the resources staff to provide us with  
10 specific places where we don't have that consistency,  
11 looking to the public to tell us where we don't have  
12 consistency. And we will be looking to the Monument  
13 Advisory Committee to help us flush out these ideas and  
14 issues and also to help us with a little direction on  
15 assistance with public information that we might not be  
16 getting, you might have accessed from the public that we  
17 haven't yet gotten to hear from.

18 These are topics kind of stuffed into issues,  
19 given a question and a problem and trying to figure out  
20 what issues might be addressed in the Monument plan, but  
21 certainly this is just a preliminary list. There will  
22 be more, we will have public meetings, we will find  
23 more. I know in the last meeting, we were asked what  
24 the issues were, and it's easy for BLM and the Forest  
25 Service to just sit down and make a list, but the point

1 of the Monument plan and the point of the Monument is  
2 try to work and try to get the public's interest into a  
3 form of a plan.

4 Are there any questions about that part?  
5 Probably best to answer those now because the next  
6 segments are about planning processes and time  
7 lines. So I'd like to address specific questions at  
8 this time.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any questions?

10 MS. HENDERSON: On the list that we were just  
11 working from, the very last item you didn't mention,  
12 which was to amend the CDCA plan to exclude the Monument  
13 such that the Monument plan would stand alone. Is that  
14 still going to be part of our discussions?

15 MS. DUNNING: Yeah. We would like to see, and  
16 at this stage the most important thing is getting all  
17 the issues on the table. What are the issues that  
18 people have, what do people want to see addressed in the  
19 land that's within the Monument? If we get all those  
20 ideas now, some of those ideas and issues can be  
21 addressed in our other planning processes. Some of them  
22 can be addressed in the Monument plan.

23 So the most important stuff is just getting at  
24 what all those issues are. Then it's our job as  
25 planners to figure out where we need to stuff that



1 interest and make sure we can track it and put it in the  
2 right process for getting that action to then be  
3 implemented.

4 A way to do that is to take the BLM, CDCA's  
5 layout, which covers huge amounts of land in the desert  
6 and to take out that section that is the Monument and to  
7 start treating it as its own plan and its own process of  
8 amending, and that is a way to do that. So we will be  
9 looking into doing that.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other questions?

11 MS. WATLING: Ruth Watling. Has CalTrans been  
12 brought into this plan in terms of federal leasing?

13 MS. DUNNING: Yeah. Actually, at our last  
14 Monument working group meeting, we had a CalTrans grant  
15 that we were looking at, and I believe Scott Quinnell  
16 who was at our last meeting and is a CalTrans planner  
17 has requested to be brought into the process, so he will  
18 be our contact.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any more questions? We're  
20 not going to take any questions from the audience.  
21 Thank you.

22 MS. DUNNING: Okay. The planning process, the  
23 legislation was passed October 24th, 2000, and we will  
24 get the plan completed, target draft plan completed --  
25 excuse me, a final plan completed three years from that

1 date, October 24th, 2003. The Federal Register notice  
2 to begin planning was just published and we are  
3 beginning our public scoping meetings now.

4 Another handout you have is a list of public  
5 scoping meetings. I don't believe I included it in your  
6 packet, but I will make sure you each get one of those.  
7 It's an additional handout that I was able to just  
8 finish last night.

9 Elena, could you get a copy of those? Make  
10 sure you guys get a copy of that. That will be our  
11 process for creating action alternatives. We're going  
12 to look to the public to bring in additional  
13 information.

14 Here it is on a slide, the information you will  
15 be given. These are the public scoping meetings that we  
16 were just able to establish, times and locations and  
17 dates. We would like for the Advisory Committee members  
18 to come to any or all, depends on how much you love  
19 public meetings and like going and hearing the public  
20 speak in the evenings, but we would really love to have  
21 all of you there, of course, and anybody that can come.

22 These meetings will be spread throughout the  
23 Valley, two up in the mountains, three down in the  
24 Valley. The process will have some resources staff from  
25 the Forest Service and some from BLM, and we will have a

1 court reporter present at the final meeting as a way to  
2 get additional word-for-word information from folks.

3 It's our intent to treat each of these meetings as a  
4 forum to get local community interests and issues out.

5 The news release for this should go out on Monday,  
6 we're going to work real hard, Frank, to get the public  
7 to find out about these, going to work harder. We're  
8 going to get advertising in the paper, send out to our  
9 400-member mailing list and anything else that you guys  
10 can do to help us.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: The last one about a court  
12 reporter being present, is that an indication that there  
13 will not be some type of record taking at the others?

14 MS. DUNNING: There will be record taking at  
15 the others. It will be a workshop forum where each  
16 person will write their own idea, so we will have a way  
17 to get the same -- just our way of testing out different  
18 formats to public meetings. If someone is not  
19 comfortable with where the court reporter isn't, they  
20 can come to the other ones, it will be  
21 workshop-formatted.

22 Every issue brought up is of interest and is  
23 just as important as the others, and the workshop format  
24 will get everybody's comments.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Would you then be encouraging

1 those who had spoken at previous workshops to attend the  
2 last meeting so their comments will be on record?

3 MS. DUNNING: Their comments will be on record,  
4 but not by a court reporter, but they will be on record.  
5 It's our intent to flush out those comments as much as  
6 possible on record, and we will -- I don't think we  
7 should expect folks to have to come to two to get their  
8 interests and opinions to us. It's our intent to have  
9 all of their comments written down, and they will be  
10 comfortable with it as seen written before they leave.

11 MR. MORGAN: These written comments taken at  
12 the workshops, are those people going to write them at  
13 the workshops, or can they bring them ahead of time and  
14 give them to you, or can they just stand up and read  
15 them?

16 MS. DUNNING: They can do anything they feel  
17 they need to do. These are going to be very flexible.  
18 In the news release or any information for people, they  
19 can bring a written comment to me, mail a written  
20 comment, they can fax a written comment. They can show  
21 up and write their comment, they can show up and word  
22 their comment.

23 It's our intent that this workshop setting will  
24 help foster a bit of brainstorming and pulling out maybe  
25 information that they didn't come with written down, but

1 all forms of information we will be gathering.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any questions at this point?

3 MS. DUNNING: Okay. Timelines. Our next  
4 handout will be relating to timelines. So if you could  
5 take a look at timelines, we had a request from the  
6 Advisory Committee to present timelines in a format that  
7 would look at different options outside of our  
8 required-by-law date, if the law would be changed, for  
9 instance, or if something else were to happen, or some  
10 other timelines we are working with in addition. We  
11 produced a timeline.

12 If you look at the sheet that says, "Plan  
13 Timeline Comparison," you have the same version, it's  
14 just miniaturized. It's a tool for you to see each of  
15 the plans that we talked about today and how those  
16 correspond with each other in terms of timelines.

17 Do you have any questions about that? I didn't  
18 stick it onto a PowerPoint because I thought everybody  
19 would have it in front of them. The first column in the  
20 plan timeline comparison sheet is the CDCA's plan  
21 amendment, the second is the multi-species plan, the  
22 third is the Forest plan revision and the fourth is the  
23 Monument plan. This is kind of an example to see the  
24 planning checkpoints that are required, just allows you  
25 to see in the process how the plans compare to each

1 other.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: On the second one, you have  
3 option A --

4 MS. DUNNING: Are we done with this --

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I just wanted to know -- I  
6 wanted to ask if we should compare the two, or will the  
7 second one stand alone, or just to prepare you?

8 MS. DUNNING: Just to prepare you. The plan  
9 timeline comparison that has the four separate plans  
10 with times listed, if you look at the final column, the  
11 Monument plan, that column is pulled forward to the  
12 alternative planning timelines, and the Monument Option  
13 A is, if you look at the Record of Decision on the  
14 bottom, it's October 2003.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So we just need this one  
16 then? Thank you.

17 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So the alternative  
18 planning timelines, there's an option A, B, and C, and a  
19 handout that goes along with that are the assumptions  
20 that we would use when trying to find out what those  
21 dates would be. This is in response to your request for  
22 what if there's an extra year.

23 Our way of looking at things is well, we can't  
24 just assume we have an extra year unless there is  
25 something that happens to change that law. Since that

1     hasn't happened, well, we are moving ahead as if October  
2     24th, 2003 is our deadline.

3             Looking at what that means, Option A, the  
4     legislation due date is firm, there's a list of  
5     assumptions in order for us to meet that deadline. Our  
6     Notice of Intent was published, and we will assume the  
7     different review periods that are listed, and option B,  
8     if you look at that, the Record of Decision is January  
9     1st of 2005.

10            If the legislative requirement can even change,  
11     then we have to assume that there's some forum that  
12     would happen. If there are state offices for Forest  
13     Service, if our Washington office requires more time to  
14     review things, then we are assuming that it might be  
15     extended. If funding is not available to contract out  
16     parts of the plan or its staff is not dedicated to work  
17     on that plan, that also might extend the deadline, only  
18     if legally we were allowed to do so.

19            Option C, the Record of Decision date is  
20     January 1st, 2006. The main reason that it would be  
21     extended so much is if Bighorn sheep as they are being  
22     addressed right now were not a part of the HTP process  
23     and are not part of our current plan amendment, we would  
24     have to begin consultation again, and the time frame for  
25     that would be at least two years. So we are taking

1 advantage of the other plannings that's going on to  
2 ensure that Bighorn sheep are being addressed  
3 efficiently and effectively now.

4 First of all, are there any questions about the  
5 assumptions and the way that these timelines were  
6 written?

7 MR. WATTS: Gary Watts, State Parks. If I  
8 understand it correctly, you said that the Monument plan  
9 would be subservient to the Forest plan, and I guess the  
10 Forest plan is not scheduled to be adopted until after  
11 the Monument plan?

12 MS. DUNNING: Yes.

13 MR. WATTS: Would it be safe to assume that  
14 because Forest Service is the part of the planning  
15 process here, that if nothing would go forward in the  
16 Monument plan, that could pose a problem or contradict  
17 the date of entry in the Forest plan?

18 MS. DUNNING: That is our intent.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other questions? Yes, Bill.

20 MR. HAVERT: Following on the period for the  
21 Monument Option A approved for the end of this year,  
22 which includes the public scoping and workshops and  
23 preparation, and you've illustrated that, can you  
24 elaborate a little bit on whether the expectation is  
25 that pieces of the plan will come forward to this group



1 at subsequent meetings for review and comment or one  
2 completed document at some point? What is the process?

3 MS. DUNNING: If it's a request of the Advisory  
4 Committee to see portions as they are being written, we  
5 can do so. If it's at the request of the Advisory  
6 Committee to just be updated as to the status, you are  
7 each welcome to attend any sort of planning meeting that  
8 we're having and any workshop outside of this forum to  
9 see where we are in the process.

10 I would look to you to provide how much of your  
11 time at these meetings you would like to see filled with  
12 presentations of what the plan is to date, because I  
13 could take up a lot of time. I'm sure your interest  
14 levels vary in terms of those details, so we would look  
15 to you to provide that as to how much you want to be a  
16 part of it, certainly, your input is important.

17 The points where you are providing  
18 recommendations, we will let you know when we are  
19 looking for recommendations on like some of these issues  
20 that we brought, for instance. Hopefully, your  
21 subgroups will be drafting recommendations of sorts or  
22 will be -- in this forum you will be drafting  
23 recommendations -- sorry -- work groups are working,  
24 and you guys provide recommendations, so we can identify  
25 that. It hasn't yet been.

1                   MR. HAVERT: Have you begun working on sort of  
2 a planned outline or just to the availability of  
3 contents?

4                   MS. DUNNING: Yeah. And what I gave to the  
5 planning subgroup was kind of a template for what the  
6 plan would look like with empty spaces.

7                   MR. HAVERT: Can we get more on that?

8                   MS. DUNNING: And the prep plans that you were  
9 given at the last meeting, we will slowly start merging  
10 those together, and we'll be identifying in our staff  
11 working group meetings where -- when each of those parts  
12 will start to be coming more together.

13                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Jeff?

14                  MR. MORGAN: I'm looking at your plan timeline  
15 comparison here and the Record of Decision at the  
16 bottom. How realistically are they, especially one, two  
17 and three? We know the Monument legislation may have  
18 changed to extend it, but we have December 31st for  
19 CDCA, June 2003 for the Coachella Valley Multi-Species  
20 Plan, and February 2004 for the Forest Service plan  
21 revision. How realistic are those dates?

22                  MS. DUNNING: Speaking for the first column for  
23 the BLM's plan, that decision will happen by December  
24 31st, it will happen. The Forest Plan Revision will  
25 happen by February 1st, 2004. Laurie, is that --

1 MS. ROSENTHAL: That's the plan, yes.

2 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So speaking for those two,  
3 it's our intent that that will happen. It's our  
4 timeline that we're working on, BLM is working on, that  
5 the Record of Decision will happen by December 31st,  
6 2002. And for the HCP, Bill knows a lot about the HCP  
7 and can perhaps answer our question about the realistic  
8 deadline. I know that's what they are working towards,  
9 so at this stage. This is the most current information.  
10 We have deadlines we're working towards, and that's the  
11 best we can answer that.

12 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other questions? One  
13 thing that concerns me is the Conduct Required State and  
14 Federal Tribal Consultation is a 135-day minimum, but  
15 yet under A, you were doing it in 90 days?

16 MS. DUNNING: Yes, that's my mistake. It's  
17 supposed to say 135 days. That's my mistake, needs to  
18 be corrected. Thank you. I was hoping no one would see  
19 it. It should be 135 days.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I would suggest that we would  
21 want a report from Connell at each meeting as to the  
22 situations. Would the Committee agree to that?

23 COMMITTEE: Yes.

24 MS. GEORGE: To make sure I understood, Bill,  
25 did you ask that the Committee would be reviewing chunks

1 of the draft, is that what you were asking? That you be  
2 provided a review period to review what we have written?

3 MR. HAVERT: It was a question, not a  
4 recommendation. I think what I would like and perhaps  
5 we should get at it this afternoon is a bit more of an  
6 outline and timeline for the period between now and  
7 December 31st so I can have a better feel for, you know,  
8 what the expectations are. Obviously, if we didn't see  
9 a complete package until towards the end of next  
10 December, we won't have much opportunity to provide any  
11 input.

12 It seems to me that there might be values to  
13 potentially look at information as we go. It's  
14 important, you have a very tough timeline to beat here.  
15 So I thought we should have a better picture of what the  
16 opportunities are here to make a recommendation from the  
17 agencies and then we can have discussion as a Committee  
18 and try to figure out how it works.

19 MS. DUNNING: Yeah. I think we would hope you  
20 wouldn't wait until seeing something to provide input,  
21 but also recognize the importance of the review process  
22 too. Certainly updating you at each meeting, yeah, we  
23 could do that easily, and then perhaps we can work with  
24 the planning subgroup to see what -- how they are  
25 feeling with that.

1           We could bring portions that were completed or  
2     in the process, but we really would hope that you would  
3     provide input during that process and not kind of wait  
4     until we hand you something. So we feel it's our need  
5     to ask for the help that we need and not just a review  
6     setting.

7           MR. HAVERT: I think just to follow on the  
8     question that we ultimately structure ourselves, and at  
9     the last meeting we set out in some of the groups with  
10    the understanding that we weren't necessarily  
11    structuring those to address all the issues that were  
12    addressed in the Monument plan. Maybe we can revisit it  
13    in this afternoon.

14          CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay.

15          MS. DUNNING: Okay. That's it. Are there any  
16    other questions?

17          MR. WATTS: Okay. I have one other question on  
18    the handout. This is the one at the top, "What are we  
19    going to create in the plan?" and then down the page,  
20    What will the plan look like?" The first statement  
21    there says, "The Monument plan will basically be a  
22    National Environment Policy Act document similar to  
23    CEQA." I'm not sure I follow exactly what that means.

24          When I think of the NEPA document, I think of  
25    EA or EIS, I'm assuming this a plan with a separate

1 accompanying NEPA document? How does it work?

2 MS. DUNNING: We're required to go through the  
3 NEPA process and any of the actions that we propose.  
4 The final plan will any actions that we propose, we need  
5 to go through that NEPA process, identifying  
6 alternatives and then analyzing those alternatives sort  
7 of for an impact to recreation impact species in that.  
8 So the NEPA process is something we have to incorporate  
9 into that plan and, ultimately, we will have an EIS.

10 MR. WATTS: So there's an actual plan document  
11 to accompany the NEPA document --

12 MS. DUNNING: Yes.

13 MR. WATTS: -- it isn't just this document?

14 MS. DUNNING: No, we will have a plan.

15 MR. BROCKMAN: We asked that very question at  
16 our planning work group and it seems like there was an  
17 emphasis on the structure of the plan looking like a  
18 NEPA document with an appendix of the Record of  
19 Decision.

20 I think one of the things we ought to think  
21 about is for a more popular version of the plan so you  
22 don't have to go through the analysis of all the  
23 alternatives and the environmental impact of those  
24 alternatives, so we can get down to the meat of what is  
25 being suggesting in this plan in terms of actions, if

1     you will. That's something that I think we might want  
2     to revisit from time to time to either do an executive  
3     summary or some sort of tabular revision of this plan.

4             CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other comments or  
5     questions from the Committee?

6             We are just about on time. For those of you on  
7     the Board who ordered lunches, hopefully they are here,  
8     so we will reconvene in this room at 1:15.

9             (Lunch recess.)

10            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Ladies and gentlemen, we will  
11     call the Committee meeting back into session. Our next  
12     presenter will be Jim Foote, BLM, speaking on the High  
13     Resolution Photography Project.

14            MS. GEORGE: I want to also say, Mr. Chairman,  
15     that along with Jim Foote's presentation will be Tom  
16     Davis for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians.

17            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It's been arranged. Okay,  
18     Jim, go for it.

19            MR. FOOTE: Members of the Advisory Committee,  
20     you can see on your agenda, I'm here to discuss the High  
21     Resolution Photography Project. As I've not had an  
22     opportunity to address the committee on this project,  
23     I'll go back to the beginning point and define what this  
24     is. I think some of you may believe it is kind of  
25     self-evident by the words, "high resolution

1     photography," but being the bureaucrat I am, I need to  
2     be a twist on this and put something of a working  
3     definition.

4             So as I sit in the audience today, I came up  
5     with this. In the context of developing management  
6     plans for the National Monument and for amending it in  
7     the future, High Resolution Aerial Photography is  
8     imagery sufficiently detailed to facilitate resource  
9     inventory in furtherance of the agency's resource  
10    management mandates.

11            So that's pretty bureaucratic. What it does is  
12    it sets some parameters for one, to look at what High  
13    Resolution Photography is and how detailed does it have  
14    to be. Clearly, we don't need the kind of photography  
15    that details enough where we could distinguish  
16    individually one-inch pebbles on the ground, and at the  
17    same time it would be detailed enough that if we took a  
18    picture from out of space and we can only see the  
19    outlines of the content, we need to come to a point that  
20    is useful for us in doing resource inventory to gain  
21    information to better manage the Monument.

22            Why do we need it? Again, I think I've hinted  
23    at that already. Back when we were initiating the  
24    Trails management plan effort, we thought we needed to  
25    have an inventory of trails, and we do need an inventory



1 of trails.

2 Now, one thing we do have in our possession is  
3 the Coachella Valley Trails Council map, which does  
4 depict trails in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto  
5 Mountains. However, we know for one it's not complete,  
6 we know there are other trails out of there that are not  
7 captured on that map. And we also know it's not  
8 completely accurately, it doesn't actually depict the  
9 alignment of these trails.

10 In thinking further on how we could get that  
11 information, I thought perhaps if we looked at aerial  
12 photography, and that's something we already have. We  
13 have what are called digital ortho quarter quads, DOQQs  
14 for short, that are images taken from above.

15 One problem is they are not sufficiently  
16 detailed. I looked at these images in the computer and  
17 tried to discern where such trails, for instance, the  
18 Art Smith trail, a fairly well-defined trail, for  
19 instance, and in most cases you could not see it on  
20 these images. The DOQQs were based on one to 40,000  
21 aerial photography, not sufficiently detailed.  
22 So to get more detailed photography, we had to take  
23 another look at other options.

24 One of the options that became very clear is an  
25 example set by the Agua Caliente tribe in their

1     photography effort. Recently completed, they did an  
2     aerial photography acquisition over the tribal land at  
3     roughly the one to 16,000 scale. This provides an image  
4     that is sufficiently detailed to be able to pick up all  
5     trails, not to mention a lot of other resource values,  
6     which leads us to ask, why do we need this? It's not  
7     just for trail inventory but for general resource  
8     management purposes, it would help in determining  
9     cultural inventory.

10           One important aspect of this image is it would  
11     set the baseline image of the National Monument at about  
12     the time it was designated. So 10, 15, 20, 100 years  
13     from now, someone could go back to this photography and  
14     they would have a clear picture of what the Monument  
15     looked like at about the date of its designation, a  
16     really good tool to measure change over time.

17           Now, once we kind of looked at what might be  
18     the best way or what might be the best product here for  
19     us, that is the high resolution and we have on the  
20     DOQQs. What are the options of obtaining this? Last  
21     year we identified a couple of different options.

22           One, we could contract the whole project  
23     completely to a private entity. We estimated this cost  
24     would be about \$90,000, hopefully, it would be a shared  
25     project between the Forest Service and BLM funding. But

1     also in my discussions with Beth Wenstrom of the Agua  
2     Caliente Tribe who is their GIS specialist, she pursued  
3     this matter with the tribe because it's their desire to  
4     gain additional information outside the reservation  
5     boundary and suggested that the tribe would also be  
6     willing to contribute to the project. That was one  
7     option.

8             The other option takes advantage of a Forest  
9     Service project that occurs every five years over the  
10    National Forest, and that is updating their aerial  
11    photography imagery. Now, they are scheduled to fly to  
12    San Bernardino National Forest this year, so we wondered  
13    how could we tie in with that, and would that give us  
14    the product we want.

15            In pursuing this, we discovered that, yes, it  
16    would give us the imagery and, yes, the Forest Service  
17    has moved forward with their contracting -- actually not  
18    with contracting, but putting the project out for bid  
19    and including more than just Forest Service lands, but  
20    to include the lands over the entire National  
21    Monument.

22            This product would give us imagery sufficient  
23    to get the information we want to do the trails  
24    inventory, to locate other resource values, and so it's  
25    something again we pursued here. We still have the two

1 options outstanding to us. The one thing the Forest  
2 Service option does not do for us is give us the  
3 complete package.

4 Now, if we have this contracted and we looked  
5 at a private entity and looked at the product that the  
6 tribe had acquired, it's a digital product. It's not  
7 just a series of aerial photographs that you hold up and  
8 look at or just a series of negative images of those  
9 photographs, rather it's a digital product.

10 What we have is something we can incorporate  
11 into our GIS system, we can model from that. Part of  
12 the product that we get out of this is called DEMs,  
13 Digital Elevation Models, which allow us to develop maps  
14 with contour lines, and once we have contour lines, then  
15 we can model towards the elevation.

16 There's a lot of uses for this product, but  
17 between the two options where the first option would be  
18 to acquire the whole thing in one package, the second  
19 option with the Forest Service would require that we go  
20 out for a second contract. After we get the imagery, we  
21 have to have it scanned, and the digital products  
22 created by another company.

23 Hopefully, one of the things we're looking at  
24 here, and I think the next item on the agenda will be  
25 dealing with budgeting, is what monies are available.

1     Danella has indicated the Forest Service, which has  
2     recently expressed kind of a lack of funding for a  
3     project of this nature has come up with some Forest  
4     Service monies and some of those can be used towards  
5     this project, but I'll leave that discussion for whoever  
6     follows with the current Monument budget and where that  
7     money is to be allocated.

8             When is this going to happen? We need to make  
9     this happen fairly quickly. My understanding is that  
10    the bids solicited by the Forest Service won't be coming  
11    back until the end of this month. At this point we're  
12    still not certain if the contractors will be able to  
13    provide what we call, "airborne GPS," which enables us  
14    to tie the imagery to legal locations on the ground,  
15    which is very important again in the management  
16    scenario.

17            We don't know that yet, we won't know that  
18    until the end of the month when the bids actually come  
19    back, and we won't know exactly how much that would cost  
20    to fly the entire forest and to be on land with airborne  
21    GPS. That is still an issue that needs to be resolved.  
22    But, again, one of the pressures we are facing here is  
23    the allocation of the National Monument budget, that  
24    because of the time that contracting takes, we need it  
25    to be moving fairly quickly and fairly shortly on this

1 project if we hope to get it done in this fiscal year,  
2 or at least the monies is allocated for that.

3 I think that's kind of a quick wrap-up of the  
4 high resolution aerial photography project. I'm sold on  
5 the project, I think it's a valuable tool in allowing us  
6 to manage the resources now and in the future. Again,  
7 it's set to have the resource inventory base, or at  
8 least a picture of the National Monument at about the  
9 time it was designated, and I'm hoping that the Advisory  
10 Committee will support the project. Any questions?

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions?

12 MR. MORGAN: What form does this come in? Do  
13 you get a bunch of disks you put into a computer, or do  
14 they give you large map-sized maps or what?

15 MR. FOOTE: We would get two products. The  
16 hard copy product, if you will, which will be both  
17 photographs and negatives, and if you're familiar with  
18 the old way people used to look at that, you have  
19 overlapping images, you use stereo scopes, optimum, and  
20 you do your research evaluations that way.

21 GIS now is the predominant tool for modeling  
22 and looking at resource conditions or establishing where  
23 resource values are located. We want the digital  
24 product.

25 Now, it will only come from scanning of those

1 negatives provided from the aerial photography. Now, it  
2 isn't just a simple scan of plugging it into the  
3 computer, there's a lot of replication that is necessary  
4 to make sure it all ties to the legal points on the  
5 ground.

6 It's that kind of the thing that is going to  
7 take considerable effort in developing their product to  
8 reflect the national mapping standard, that has to be  
9 considered, and if it doesn't do that, it's not the  
10 product that we're desiring. So it needs to meet that  
11 requirement, the National Monument standard, so we can  
12 use it effectively.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any questions? Bary?

14 MR. FREET: I got lost in your explanation of  
15 the contracting process, can you kind of go over that  
16 one more time?

17 First of all, I heard you say -- or thought I  
18 heard you say -- that you weren't sure whether the  
19 contractor contracted by the Forest Service in the  
20 future would be able to provide the airborne GPS  
21 product, digitally aerial photos.

22 And then towards the end, I thought I heard you  
23 say that you won't know until the end of the month when  
24 the bids are received, so my question is, if that's be  
25 the case, why wasn't this written into the contract as

1 an option for the product?

2 MR. FOOTE: My understanding is in  
3 communications with the Forest Service Blaco Office is  
4 that typically they have done the aerial photography  
5 projects, where they have host of contractors that bid  
6 on that, but not all contractors previously used are  
7 equipped to do airborne GPS, this is new wrinkle in the  
8 manner in which they are going to apply their product.

9 So it's an unknown at this point, it's part of  
10 the contract, but I don't believe -- I think it's an  
11 option, I'm not sure, I haven't seen the contract or the  
12 bid prospective, but as I understand it, it's an option  
13 that we're asking for it. So it may not necessarily be  
14 an inherent part of the requirement, but if they can  
15 provide that, then the costs will be evaluated as to  
16 whether or not to do that for the entire project data.

17 MR. FREET: One more question. So if it is an  
18 option, which is kind of unknown at this time, do we  
19 have through your agency participation in any way to  
20 influence the selection?

21 In other words, if Contractor A can't provide  
22 the project at all, he's a little bidder, and Contractor  
23 B can provide both, and he might be the next lowest  
24 bidder, do we have any way to influence the selection of  
25 the contractors so that our product is recognized, our



1 product being defined as GPS Digital?

2 MR. FOOTE: I can't answer that. I'm not  
3 familiar with the Forest Service contracting procedures,  
4 but I think clearly we have an option here that if the  
5 decision is to accept on the Forest Service's part to do  
6 their five-year aerial photography acquisition with a  
7 contractor who can't do that, then we do have an option  
8 to look at a separate contractor so our needs are met.

9 Again, what we're hoping what will happen is  
10 that we can look at the least expensive way of doing  
11 this and putting the plan in the air is a very expensive  
12 proposition. If we can take advantage of that and just  
13 extend flight lines over the remainder of the  
14 Monument, then we would have reduced costs probably  
15 significantly, whether or not we can influence that  
16 process, I just don't know. Somebody else may be able  
17 to answer that.

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other questions? Bob.

19 MR. BROCKMAN: Bob Brockman. I'm not sure  
20 what's been asked of the Committee. Are we being asked  
21 to make a recommendation, or are we being asked to  
22 commit funds not knowing what the budget is? It's all  
23 unclear where this is headed.

24 MR. FOOTE: I'm not that familiar with that  
25 part. I think, if I'm correct in assuming the way this

1 would go, there's a report on the Monument budget and  
2 I'm hoping there would be a tie-in between this Advisory  
3 Council's roles in determining an allocation budget to  
4 particular projects and what we have to work with. I'm  
5 not that familiar with that process. Danella can  
6 probably answer that.

7 MS. GEORGE: I asked Jim to give a presentation  
8 to the Committee to explain what the project is, the  
9 information, and also hopefully through dialogue that  
10 the Committee would make a recommendation. You will see  
11 it's a beautiful tool for recreation, for wildlife, so  
12 it would be nice after looking at it, that the Committee  
13 might make a recommendation.

14 We have funds committed, set right now, BLM  
15 does. I have been told that the project proposals,  
16 which have been deferred will be funded, and that was  
17 one of them, this is one of them. So time is of the  
18 essence to spend those monies because people are going  
19 to start pulling away our dollars if we don't commit  
20 them to other deals.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Does that answer your  
22 question?

23 MR. BROCKMAN: Mostly. I think the next item  
24 on the agenda might help also.

25 MS. WATLING: Ruth Watling. You need to make

1 the decision because the money is in this fiscal year?

2 MR. FOOTE: I believe so.

3 MS. WATLING: Then what's the projected time of  
4 the project would take?

5 MR. FOOTE: If we would go with a private  
6 contractor, to be conservative, it would take roughly  
7 200 days from initiation of the contract to the  
8 completion of the project and the delivery of the  
9 product.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, Bill?

11 MR. HAVERT: Have you talked to CVAG recently  
12 about some of the imagery that they just purchased and  
13 whether it has any obligation or alternatively whether  
14 what you're looking for, assuming it's something you  
15 don't have, is something they might be interested in and  
16 might be able to get.

17 MR. FOOTE: Jim Sullivan had raised the issue  
18 of sharing this data with CVAG and did not suggest that  
19 they had imagery that would actually be usable on our  
20 side, but certainly we would look at establishing some  
21 mechanism to share with CVAG, and I think that would be  
22 fair.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bary?

24 MR. FREET: Bary Freet. Conceptually -- first  
25 of all, I'm familiar with the product. Conceptually,

1 I'm in favor of proceeding with the product, however,  
2 not knowing the contract amount, which could be quite  
3 reverse pricing-wise, I don't know how I could support  
4 the product at this point for recommendation?

5 MR. FOOTE: It's a fair consideration. It  
6 looks like probably at the top end if we go with the  
7 option of completely contracting the entire product,  
8 it's in the neighborhood of \$90,000, and I'm assuming  
9 whatever product we would drive using Forest Service fly  
10 over the project and then separately contracting for the  
11 digital, would be less than that.

12 MR. FREET: So you're saying that on the  
13 outside it could be 90,000?

14 MR. FOOTE: That is the original estimate.  
15 That estimate came from the contractor with whom the  
16 Agua Caliente Indians worked with, given our parameters  
17 and size and what we are looking for, that is an  
18 estimate that came down.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Anyone else? Thank you, Jim.  
20 And speaking on behalf of Agua Caliente, Tom Davis.

21 MR. DAVIS: Mr. Chairman, good afternoon. I  
22 have here two hardcopy products that people can look at  
23 so I'll pass them around. They are a little awkward,  
24 but I think if you look at them person by person real  
25 close, as our planning professionals are probably bored

1 with this, but it may be interesting as far as  
2 recognition of data and quality of product, that we may  
3 get through the contract.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Before you leave the  
5 microphone, are these comparable to what Jim was talking  
6 about?

7 MR. DAVIS: I believe so, yes. These are two  
8 different scales. One is an aerial photo of a township,  
9 a complete township 36 square miles, and the southern  
10 township being the county of Indio Canyons area, Palm  
11 Canyon. The other is a section, a one-square mile,  
12 that's where the real clarity and definition comes in.

13 You can see the one example I brought here is  
14 one of the northernmost -- north and easternmost section  
15 of the reservation, just below Indio Hill, Barter Road  
16 cuts across the bottom of it, if you look carefully you  
17 can see the car, it's a 200-scale document.

18 The township, southern township of Indian  
19 Canyons aerial is one that equals a thousand feet, and  
20 the section 2 is one, which equals 200 feet. And you  
21 can see that by that section 2 aerial, you can see  
22 there's actually a pass, there's dirt roads, a vineyard  
23 you can see is distinctly different from the dirt roads.  
24 You can do a myriad of data sets with it and analysis  
25 with it because you can pick out trails, almost pick out

1 a sheep with that definition. So it's a pretty good  
2 product.

3 It's important -- I think Jim already  
4 mentioned, it's important to be orthographically  
5 corrected, what they call rectified. Just getting an  
6 aerial photo alone doesn't do the job, we learned that  
7 pretty quickly.

8 We had a set of aerials done for the  
9 reservation back in '91 or '92, and they weren't  
10 orthographically corrected, so we did a second job a  
11 couple of years ago and it was orthographically  
12 corrected, that is, it's computer adjusted to match to  
13 on the monuments on the ground, so you're being very  
14 accurate on the information. You can sandwich this with  
15 a lot of other information, we sandwiched it with the  
16 Riverside County Flood Control.

17 I would also suggest you might consider doing,  
18 if you're doing a flyover on a photographic exercise,  
19 you might consider doing it with a twin camera situation  
20 with the infrared. The infrared will give you that data  
21 set for inventory for biology, pick out weapons,  
22 vegetation.

23 If you're going to be managing for either  
24 recreation or biology, we will be able to find out if  
25 the waterholes are drying up, if the cameras in the

1 mountain grass are invading certain spots, infrared will  
2 help you do that if you have the right interpretation.

3 You can also add to it any kind of ownership  
4 information, a wide variety, we use it for a wide  
5 variety of things, land status, through zoning land use,  
6 general planning information, infrastructure, water  
7 sewage, stormdrain.

8 That's it. Any questions? I'm not the GIS  
9 expert so, but I'll try to do my best.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: One question. Let me just  
11 ask one question referring to Bary's questions, I'm not  
12 asking you to say how much you paid for these, but would  
13 you say that the estimate is probably realistic 90,000  
14 max?

15 MR. DAVIS: I would say that estimate is  
16 realistic, but I wouldn't be surprised if it's higher  
17 slightly. It's fair it's safe to say that you can have  
18 that product done for anywhere from 80 to \$110,000 for  
19 what you need.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Jeff, you have  
21 one?

22 MR. MORGAN: I have a question for Jim rather  
23 than Tom. I just looked at one section of one map-sized  
24 sheet, and would this system that you're proposing give  
25 that clarity or would it give this clarity?

1           MR. FOOTE: This is using the same data set,  
2   that is just an enlargement and it would be the  
3   equivalent.

4           MR. MORGAN: Would we be able to get that  
5   quality of product from the system you're proposing?

6           MR. FOOTE: Right.

7           MR. DAVIS: That's the same generation, same  
8   shift that's blown up six times is that clarity, that's  
9   correct. And again, it goes to the type of camera, the  
10   film, and the paper used to reproduce. That really  
11   helps, hit makes a big difference.

12          MR. FOOTE: We are looking at natural color  
13   photography as Tom mentioned on the infrared side, USFS  
14   will be flying within a year or two vast areas gathering  
15   infrared photography that would be available to us but  
16   not at this scale, it would be at the same as the DOQQs,  
17   the 1 to 40,000 imagery, but that may be sufficient if  
18   we're running a second camera, but it would be too  
19   expensive at this point.

20          CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Can you use the microphone,  
21   please?

22          MR. FOOTE: Sure. I may not have anything left  
23   to say.

24          CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any questions? Bary?

25          MR. FREET: Bary Freet. Back to earlier in



1 your presentation, Jim, you mentioned that the Agua  
2 Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians might participate in  
3 the cost of this. Is that a firm commitment? Where are  
4 we at with that?

5 MR. FOOTE: No, it wouldn't be a firm  
6 commitment. As I understand, the tribal council would  
7 have to rule on that. This was, I think, an initial  
8 investigation or inquiry made by Beth Wenstrom in  
9 pursuing this on recognition that their resource value  
10 is important to the tribe would occur outside the  
11 reservation and hence their interest in getting more  
12 information about those resources.

13 MR. FREET: Mr. Chairman, one more question.

14 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes.

15 MR. FREET: Tom, the product you're sharing  
16 with us now, is that primarily coordinated by Beth  
17 Wenstrom?

18 MR. DAVIS: Correct. The follow-up to your  
19 question, we have not gotten a proposal to the tribal  
20 council, so they have not made any commitments  
21 financially. However, this data is available right now,  
22 we can do -- it can fill a big piece of the pie, you  
23 know, we're building from the work we already now so  
24 it's possible.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Terry?

1                   MS. HENDERSON: Just to clarify, maybe to  
2 Jim, was the request here before this Advisory  
3 Committee for support for partial funding or full  
4 funding? I kind of got the impression it was  
5 maybe a multi-agency cooperative kind of  
6 everyone-throw-their-money-in-the-pot discussion that  
7 I was hearing, and now I'm not really sure what I'm  
8 hearing.

9                   MR. FOOTE: I think the options are there, even  
10 Jim Sullivan indicated if we were willing to share the  
11 product, that CVAG might get us some money too. I  
12 think whoever is interested in this product and  
13 certainly BLM, Forest Service and the tribal community  
14 and CVAG now appears to be, it would be a multi-funded  
15 project. I would hope it would be.

16                  MS. HENDERSON: So maybe the recommendation is  
17 more of support for the project with a funding request  
18 coming at a later time.

19                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any questions? Thank you  
20 very much, Jim and Tom.

21                  Tom, did you have something else?

22                  MR. DAVIS: Yes. Madam Vice Chairman, just  
23 want to clarify something. Again, in lieu of  
24 participating financially, we license our GIS data,  
25 along as it's not privileged ownership data to other

1 parties. We'll be pleased to do that and not charge for  
2 it in lieu of whatever financial participation would be  
3 requested either part or whole.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you, very much, and  
5 Madam Vice Chairman.

6 All right. Right on time here. It's 1:45,  
7 we're looking for the current Monument budget, Monument  
8 staff/contributing staff, anniversary events by our  
9 lovely designated federal official.

10 MS. GEORGE: In your notebooks, right behind  
11 the first agenda, is the BLM budget for the fiscal year  
12 2003. It's the BLM's budget for the entire California  
13 Desert District, which you see if you go to the very  
14 top, up on the top of the column, it would be the sixth,  
15 that is the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains National  
16 Monument. And what basically over those three pages is  
17 the funding that has been committed this fiscal year for  
18 2002, we have activity areas where this money is coming  
19 in these activity areas, labeled dollars and top  
20 dollars, page 2, there's funding there and at the bottom  
21 of page 3 is the total \$1.190 million that BLM has  
22 committed this fiscal year to the National  
23 Monument. Are there any questions with the BLM budget?

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Frank?

25 MR. BOGERT: I guess I should ask as we're

1 talking just 668, right?

2 MS. GEORGE: Yes, sir, just Santa Rosa/San  
3 Jacinto National Monument.

4 MR. BOGERT: If you look at the headings, some  
5 of them might take a little explanation, such as T & E  
6 species.

7 MS. GEORGE: Right. If we down where the  
8 dollars are on the left, Soil, Water & Air, there's  
9 money there, we have money in Riparian, some of the  
10 stuff we do with Restoration what we have done with the  
11 tribe in cooperation with the Agua Caliente Band of  
12 Cahuilla Indians to eradicate tamarisk and fountain  
13 grass, cultural resources.

14 We have -- in the next meeting will be a  
15 discussion on this. BLM has set aside money there to  
16 have a cultural and ethnographic assessment done, it's  
17 needed for the plan, which stem from the aerial work  
18 group, folks working together for what they need for  
19 tools for this management plan that we are now currently  
20 sharing with the Monument Advisory Committee. Wildlife,  
21 we have funding in the Wildlife activities, we have  
22 funding in the threatened and endangered species  
23 program, we have funding in Wilderness, we have funding  
24 in Recreation, we have funding in the Resource  
25 Management Plan. We have funding in Operations and

1 Maintenance.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We do?

3 MS. GEORGE: Yes and no.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: The reason I ask that  
5 question was where would you anticipate that this 90 or  
6 110 or \$60,000 would come from?

7 MS. GEORGE: Okay. Tentatively, we have set  
8 aside -- the BLM budget group has set aside \$30,000.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Which pot?

10 MS. GEORGE: Comes from different pots, comes  
11 from the Recreation pot, comes from money from Wildlife,  
12 some money from T & E because that product benefits all  
13 those programs.

14 MR. BOGERT: If your budget is like I  
15 understand, each one of these figures is based upon a  
16 requirement that has been recognized and planned to be  
17 expended; is that correct?

18 MS. GEORGE: Yes. Uh-huh, somewhat.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Do you hear that, Jim?

20 MR. KENNA: I'm listening.

21 MS. GEORGE: If Jim can explain it better, let  
22 him.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I guess I'm having difficulty  
24 discovering where -- at least I didn't hear it -- monies  
25 for the Monument other than these that have been brought

1 out, such as photography, would come from. Maybe, Jim,  
2 you want to come up to the microphone?

3 MS. GEORGE: Can I finish with the budget, as  
4 we have just done BLM and we have to talk about Forest  
5 Service too?

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Personally, I would like to  
7 get each section fully understood before we go onto the  
8 next section.

9 Jim? Your name, please.

10 MR. KENNA: Jim Kenna, Field Manager for BLM.  
11 Our budget comes in the categories you see. Once the  
12 budget is passed, and that varies from year to year, but  
13 when we do finally get it, we will get it into those  
14 categories, then you're right, it is tied to a set of  
15 what is called performance measures and workload  
16 measures. There is some flexibility with those  
17 performance measures and workload measures, and they are  
18 based on cost estimates. Obviously, not everything  
19 costs exactly what it was estimated to cost and  
20 sometimes you get some savings here and overruns there.

21 The second thing is that when we would hit mid  
22 year, which will come in about a month, there's an  
23 opportunity to make some adjustments, not in the  
24 commitments that the budget is tied to, but in sort of  
25 how the funds are allocated once you see them a little

110

1 bit better, how they have been expended and where the  
2 needs are relative to completing the work plan.

3 So the purpose of that is just to let you know  
4 that what Danella said is true, they are tied to those  
5 accomplishments, but remember the plan budget in this  
6 execution sometimes has some practical things to change  
7 some of the specifics and the dollars do move around a  
8 little bit. I am pretty comfortable particularly mid  
9 year that we can come up with the BLM commitment for the  
10 30,000 to address this project. I don't see that as a  
11 problem.

12 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: The one thing I don't quite  
13 understand is that it was my understanding that there  
14 was money actually budgeted for the Monument, and I  
15 hesitate to say, "Committee Operations," but what comes  
16 out of this section here, I don't see that in there.

17 MR. KENNA: That's true. It isn't a line item  
18 in the level of detail. I mean we're -- we have a  
19 management information system that can take you into the  
20 budget to this level or to this level or to this level.  
21 So what you're asking about is a level of detail that is  
22 further down in the report that you have there and then  
23 the money isn't there.

24 MR. BOGERT: And would this 90 or 30 for your  
25 share come out of that budget or is it by finding these

1 extra monies in these others?

2 MR. KENNA: No. One of the things that we have  
3 in the Monument budget commitments is certain types of  
4 inventory, for example, that are accountable in the way  
5 that performance and workload measures are set up.  
6 It isn't about how we accomplish the goal, it's about  
7 delivering the result. So we can -- I have some  
8 flexibility and Danella has some flexibility when we get  
9 into the management of the budget to work with how we  
10 accomplish the goal or even if something comes up to  
11 where one area we were going to inventory, another area  
12 comes up that becomes a higher priority, we can shift  
13 funds there in order to accomplish the priority shift.  
14 Does that help?

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. Other questions?  
16 Bob?

17 MR. LYMAN: Bob Lyman. It seems to me then if  
18 we were to go forward with such recommendation and with  
19 the \$30,000 contribution, then if we were to set that  
20 recommendation as a not-to-exceed amount?

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella?

22 MS. GEORGE: Could I just finish on the budget  
23 and then tie that up? Is that okay --

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's fine.

25 MS. GEORGE: -- let me finish?



1                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay, Danella.

2                   MS. GEORGE: Terry, to what you just said,  
3 flexibility with performance measure and performance  
4 elements, it states we are to report to Congress what we  
5 are measured on, and by doing the inventory for the  
6 photography, we would meet a lot of accomplishments, we  
7 probably over accomplish because we would be measuring  
8 things from wildlife habitat, trails and inventory, it  
9 would be an assessment. So in many ways, it would be an  
10 over accomplishment that's set this year.

11                   In the meetings that are going throughout the  
12 last year -- is that Foote with the interagency work  
13 group -- in about the last year, that interagency  
14 agency, you've got that group of folks, you've got the  
15 Forest Services, BLM, California Department of Parks  
16 coming down, Fish and Game are coming, the different  
17 folks.

18                   And we would love, Terry, for all of them to  
19 contribute some piece of the pie for a percentage of  
20 acreage within the Monument if they have to help with a  
21 project like this. But BLM, like we said, we would set  
22 aside \$30,000 from when the budget first came down, we  
23 said to ourselves, if we will pull it from different  
24 pots, it's going to benefit a lot of different  
25 activities.

1               \$30,000 -- Forest Service would also contribute  
2     \$30,000. Forest Service who were working -- Forest  
3     Service in their budget, their budget states for the  
4     Monument this day, hopefully in the next few weeks we  
5     will have finished the interagency agreement, which will  
6     cover part of my salary, part of Connell's salary, the  
7     interpretive position when it's filled, and other work  
8     that's going to be done by contract because we don't  
9     have the bodies yet.

10              Then we have been asked for from the Regional  
11     Forester about \$617,000, but we have not seen it. They  
12     have asked for it, we put together a package, and they  
13     sent it to Regional Forester. At this time the only  
14     dollars that Forest Services has been able to commit has  
15     been in kind, helping us in kind with some anniversary  
16     events, as well as one of the Visitor Center positions,  
17     they filled a salary on that.

18              So about two weeks ago, my boss, Jim, asked me  
19     to respond to a Service First request for dollars to  
20     Deputy Regional Forester, Gilbert Espinoza, and in that  
21     one of the projects identified was funding this  
22     photography.

23              In recent conversations, I have been told that  
24     the Washington office is going to send San Bernardino  
25     San Jacinto Ranger District \$100,000 for that

1 proposal. But it takes the rangers' concern and Jim  
2 Zimmerman's concern to commit that 30,000. The other 30  
3 was the tribe so we would be at that \$90,000.

4 So BLM has it, which Jim Kenna is really  
5 important what he said about mid year. The other thing  
6 that would happen at mid year, if we don't commit our  
7 dollars, someone who is real hungry could steal our  
8 dollars. So we need to get moving on this and get this  
9 done.

10 That's our budget, so the two things we  
11 covered, our budget, BLM, status of the Forest Service  
12 budget for the Committee and then this would be one of  
13 the projects that we would really like to see funded.  
14 Does that answer the questions?

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bob?

16 MR. LYMAN: I don't think so. We still haven't  
17 identified anything from a global aspect. All this  
18 money is kind of floating around, and there's certainly  
19 no provision for any overrun because from what  
20 Tom Davis said, this product could go from 90 to 110.

21 And given the fact that it's somewhat  
22 constrained, I just -- somehow if the recommendations  
23 would come in, that we have to set parameters on that  
24 recommendation and not carte blanche.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Jim?

1           MR. KENNA: I'm going to try to keep out of  
2 trouble here. If the Committee is wrestling with the  
3 idea of recommending an amount, I think you're outside  
4 of your charter, because the budget allocation is not  
5 something that you can do.

6           I think it's appropriate to get information on  
7 budgets, I also think it's appropriate to provide  
8 recommendations as to the merit of a project. I would  
9 be very careful about trying to wrestle down the 90,000  
10 or a \$100,000, whatever. Just a cautionary note, with  
11 respect.

12           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: No, no, I've been waiting for  
13 someone to say that because that's my understanding, we  
14 come up with the ideas and then you guys decide whether  
15 you can fund them.

16           MR. KENNA: Thank you.

17           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. So that's where  
18 we are, I think. Yes, Gary?

19           MR. WATTS: Gary Watts. Danella, I have two  
20 questions for you. What's the difference between  
21 Recreation Resources and Recreation Operations on  
22 page 2?

23           MS. GEORGE: Recreation Resources, actually,  
24 you know what, we have a better expert. Mr. Foote is  
25 the expert recreation for BLM. Would you mind,

1 Mr. Foote?

2 MR. WATTS: Maybe it's just from the government  
3 employee's curiosity and really not that important to  
4 the rest of the group. I'm just curious.

5 MS. GEORGE: Operations would be like running  
6 the business, day-to-day, running that Visitor Center,  
7 doing the ops, that sort of thing. Recreation Resources  
8 would be things like planning things like trail  
9 monitoring, so focusing more on the resource impact to  
10 cultural resources, by recreation identifying those,  
11 protecting those.

12 Let's say you have a trail that it goes through  
13 some special site, some special resource site, by  
14 putting the trail in, it's not benefitting cultural  
15 resources, but it's to protect the resources to divert  
16 it away so it's benefiting recreation. So that is the  
17 kind of places where those dollars would come from,  
18 those kind of places.

19 MR. WATTS: A second question probably is more  
20 pertinent, and I hate to bring this up because the State  
21 is currently about \$18 billion in the red, but in the  
22 event that State Parks can find some dollars to  
23 contribute to that -- this project, I'm assuming that  
24 you could commit to it, and there would be some way for  
25 us to transfer money to an agreement that might manage

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1 to free up whatever amount we could find, certainly  
2 because we have an interest in that type of material in  
3 for the San Jacinto State Parks.

4 I'm assuming with the Forest Service flying  
5 over there, it could cover -- the Forest Service project  
6 would cover the whole forest; is that correct?

7 MR. KENNA: Yes. And we're looking to expand  
8 that to make sure we have coverage around the National  
9 Monument that's outside the forest.

10 MR. WATTS: Because you know the State Park, it  
11 lies within the Monument and also outside as well, so I  
12 want to make sure it's covered on both sides if we were  
13 to fund the money for it.

14 MR. KENNA: It would be the entire Monument.

15 MR. WATTS: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other questions?  
17 Barbara?

18 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: Barbara Gonzalez-Lyons.  
19 It looks like we're stealing from everyone else's  
20 budget. We have no budget of our own, whatever we may  
21 recommend may not go anywhere because we don't have any  
22 money to spend. That's a little frustrating in  
23 itself.

24 Also, if in the Federal government decides they  
25 are going to take money for their deficit and start

1 taking from everybody else's budget, is there going to  
2 be money to spend on these things that we want to do?

3 MS. GEORGE: To me, Barbara?

4 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: Anybody.

5 MS. GEORGE: This is just for our fiscal year,  
6 and we got it, BLM has it, the criteria to do projects  
7 that benefit the National Monument plan, both the  
8 planning part long-term needs for the National Monument  
9 from a resource need, environmental resource, cultural  
10 need. It's here for '02, whether we'll ever see it  
11 again for '03, who knows, let's hope so.

12 Like Jim has pointed out, this Committee really  
13 can't talk about, yes, we want you to spend this amount  
14 of dollars or, yes, you know this is the value, but  
15 here's the dollars we have. I guess then what we showed  
16 you was the type of product we'd like and information to  
17 try to bring folks up to snuff on what people have been  
18 doing towards the Monument plan, as well as basic  
19 management of the Monument and to garner your support  
20 for doing something like that.

21 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: But you're saying that if  
22 we don't go ahead and ask for this money ourselves for  
23 whatever project we may want to try to do, then they can  
24 then spend it elsewhere? It can be moved elsewhere  
25 because we don't --

1 MS. GEORGE: You mean, we, the Committee?

2 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: We as a Committee  
3 recommend it be spent on something, and if we don't  
4 recommend it to be spent on something, that money could  
5 be used elsewhere. It won't stay with us.

6 MS. GEORGE: Well, I'm sure we'll spend it  
7 somewhere in the California Desert District, but it just  
8 may not get spent on doing something for the Monument  
9 unless we get a contract written fairly soon or start  
10 doing something like that.

11 MR. HAVERT: Is BLM's decision as to whether to  
12 put money towards this project in any way hinged upon  
13 the desires of this Committee, or are you just looking  
14 for moral support for this, and the fact we really don't  
15 have a goal to play, like yourself in BLM's expenditure  
16 against the budget. If that's the case, it seems to be  
17 a much simpler, you know, proposition.

18 The question is relatively one of in a general  
19 sense, does this Committee think that it would be  
20 worthwhile for BLM and other partners to possess the  
21 kind of information that would come from this  
22 acquisition of this purchase, and do it? Even if we  
23 said we don't think so, if you really think that it's  
24 important?

25 MS. GEORGE: It was information, two things,

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1 the information I wrote about to the High Resolution  
2 Photography Project is information to the Committee  
3 showing you what the product is, tied with the  
4 presentation that was separate from the high resolution  
5 photography budget, and just the question came up about  
6 what it would cost, BLM has dollars there ready to go,  
7 we're hoping we will get the dollars from the Forest  
8 Service, and hopefully, the Committee would like to see  
9 a project like that for support?

10 MR. HAVERT: I'm not sure that's necessarily an  
11 action required of the Committee.

12 MS. GEORGE: No. No, it was not.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Do you have a question, Bary?

14 MR. FREET: I believe I know what this product  
15 is and I support the product, the concept of the  
16 product, how ever it's required, probably would be  
17 beneficial for the management of the Monument, our use  
18 of how you could coagulate the money. More power to  
19 you.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: If I may, Bob, Ed Kibbey.  
21 Going back to what Jim said, we are a group of people  
22 representing the citizenry of the area of the  
23 Monument. It is up to us to listen to those people,  
24 find out what they would like to do, and then pass that  
25 as a recommendation onto BLM and the Forest Service. We

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1     don't care whether they have any money or not. We don't  
2     care how they do it. We care if they do it, but we have  
3     no power to make them do it. So I want to make sure  
4     that this Committee is not constrained in any way by  
5     financials, for their ability to pay or their ability to  
6     do. We're a dream factory.

7             And in response to Bill's question or statement  
8     that we don't need to do anything else, I disagree. I  
9     would very much like a motion for either support or  
10    non-support based upon what I've just described. Do we  
11    believe this to be a good idea? Is it something that  
12    would assist us and other people in making the Monument  
13    a better place, I think that's really all we are  
14    concerned with. We're a dream factory.

15            Having said that, Bob?

16            MR. LYMAN: I do have a question. In our prior  
17    meeting, it was talked about through our planning, the  
18    non-availability of the GIS specialist and those types  
19    of the things. A lot of this information is going to be  
20    captured in some type of GIS format. It seems to me in  
21    making one recommendation there should be a caveat or  
22    add up to that recommendation that says going with this  
23    we also like to see the GIS specialist, in collecting  
24    that data, we have no way to process that data. All we  
25    have is pretty pictures.

1                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Exactly. Point well taken.  
2       So if is there are no other questions or comments, I  
3       would entertain a motion in some manner. Bob?  
4                   MR. LYMAN: Yes. Now, we have been relieved of  
5       all fiscal responsibility, I make a motion that we  
6       recommend this a priority product.  
7                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Do I have a second?  
8                   MR. BOGERT: Second.  
9                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, we do have a second from  
10      Frank. Any comments, questions, statements? All in  
11      favor say, "Aye."  
12                  COMMITTEE: Aye.  
13                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Those opposed, say. It  
14      passes. Bob?  
15                  MR. LYMAN: In conjunction with that, since we  
16      are a dream factory, I think we should look at adding to  
17      that or putting onto that the GIS specialist or some  
18      sort of methodology to process this data.  
19                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Could you simplify that  
20      notion a little, we are recommending a GIS study?  
21                  MR. LYMAN: A GIS position?  
22                  MS. HENDERSON: Position, a person?  
23                  MR. LYMAN: A body.  
24                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We have a motion for  
25      recommending the GIS position. Terry?

1 MS. HENDERSON: No, no, I'll wait.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Do we have a second?

3 MR. GRAFTON: I second.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. We have a second from  
5 Larry. Any discussion? Terry?

6 MS. HENDERSON: Yes. Terry Henderson,  
7 La Quinta.

8 Do we know that the agency doesn't have this  
9 position filled or the availability to hire? I mean, I  
10 think maybe we're going one step too far. I really do  
11 appreciate the fact that we are advisory in nature and  
12 we really don't control the budget.

13 Frankly, I don't want to control the budget,  
14 but having said that, I would have been satisfied for a  
15 motion to support the motion to this project, which is  
16 basically what we did. We need to go on record for the  
17 motion. I don't dispute that. I'm not really sure  
18 about hiring a position. I think without having some  
19 more management study of the agency, we don't know  
20 whether they need the position or not.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Have a question on the  
22 motion? Bob?

23 MR. BROCKMAN: Bob Brockman. This is one of  
24 the subjects we were going to talk about when we get to  
25 the work group discussions, because it was something we

1 did talk about. I don't know, Mr. Chairman, if you want  
2 to get into that aspect of it now or wait until we  
3 review a number of issues that the work group talked  
4 about, but this was one of the things that did come out  
5 of our discussion. We haven't had a chance to present  
6 it to the Committee just yet.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think it's germane to the  
8 budget. It will be discussed at this time.

9 MR. BROCKMAN: In that sense, I certainly  
10 concur with Bob on his motion, because it was evident to  
11 the work group that we need to do some sort of  
12 comparative analysis of a number of the various plans  
13 that are ongoing, and that analysis in large part will  
14 lend itself to a GIS process. It was the staff's  
15 representation in our meeting that they didn't have the  
16 capability. That's the reason that we're suggesting  
17 that the Committee consider this particular idea at this  
18 time.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. Jeff, do you have  
20 a motion?

21 MR. MORGAN: Jeff Morgan. My question is to  
22 Danella. On this GIS person that you want to hire, what  
23 are your resources at this stage regarding that right  
24 now? Do you have anybody who does this or can do this  
25 or would do this?

1 MS. GEORGE: Not knowing what the work group  
2 has done to see what they have presented, recently I  
3 asked the GIS staff of the Forest Service and BLM staff  
4 to get together with the planners working on the  
5 Monument plans and the current plans as well as to work  
6 with the resource specialists, folks like the geologist,  
7 biologist, the cultural people, and come up with some  
8 staffed-out proposals of what we need for the Monument,  
9 GIS.

10 I haven't seen any staff staffed out or what  
11 the needs are. I've seen lists of "BLM has this, Forest  
12 Service has this," but I don't know what the  
13 recommendations would be to come from staff for what we  
14 need, and so that's the status we are at.

15 The other thing I think I need to probably go  
16 into, we talked earlier in the last meeting about the  
17 Advisory Committee, I don't know if the Advisory  
18 Committee's is to recommend someone for a federal  
19 position if we take contracting and consulting. We need  
20 clarification on that. Does that answer it?

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes. Gary?

22 MR. WATTS: Gary Watts. I agree with Terry,  
23 we're taking it that step one bit too far, we're getting  
24 over the line, and I hesitate to tell the MAC what to do  
25 on those types of decisions. I expect if they come to

1     us asking for support for a project they have got  
2     planned to do something with that product and they are  
3     getting it, and if they don't have internal management  
4     issues as well, and maybe that's when we might get  
5     involved from the outside. I couldn't support giving  
6     them that level of detail telling them what to do with  
7     their positions.

8             CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Anyone else to speak?

9             MR. HAVERT: Bill Havert. Two comments. One  
10     is a particular comment, I know BLM does need a GIS  
11     position, and that person is heavily committed to the  
12     multi-species plan, and I think that's a key priority to  
13     keep that person there so I would be wary of us getting  
14     into anything that tends to give direction for BLM  
15     resources.

16            The second comment is what if -- that is if we  
17     were going to, and I think it would be dangerous ground  
18     to start making recommendations to BLM without staffing  
19     for one thing or another, I think it would have to be a  
20     very comprehensive manner unless we find ourselves next  
21     time recommending that BLM really needs additional help  
22     to the Visitors Centers, we could easily hand out  
23     recommending to the point where recommendations lose  
24     meaning because we won't agree beyond the realms of  
25     reality to stretch the eliminating a little bit.

1                   It's needless for us to start that. If we're  
2 going to address it in a thoroughly comprehensive manner  
3 and look at the same issues that BLM has to do.

4                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any comments on the motion?  
5 I agree we should not be specifying positions. My  
6 thinking was that we would let BLM know that we have a  
7 concern in this regard, more than willing to back their  
8 desire for the photography project and call to their  
9 attention if we feel that they go forward with it that  
10 they should be looking for GIS information and that sort  
11 of thing also. For one, I think BLM has heard us loud  
12 and clear and perhaps the motion might be withdrawn.

13                  MR. LYMAN: No issue with that as long as  
14 there's a caveat that says, if not, take a bunch of data  
15 and let the Advisory know when.

16                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's a withdrawal?

17                  MR. LYMAN: Yes.

18                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Motion to withdraw. There's  
19 no motion on the floor. Does that complete your  
20 discussion?

21                  MS. GEORGE: Yes. You were going to help me  
22 with the organization, showing in your notebook, working  
23 with the Chair, a question about the organization of BLM  
24 and the Forest Service staff and how they relate to each  
25 other. So in your notebook and your packet, towards the



1 back, what I did is describe the line authority between  
2 the two agencies, Forest Service, BLM.

3 We have District Ranger, Laurie Rosenthal for  
4 US Forest Service and Jim Kenna for BLM. Forest  
5 supervisor, Gene Zimmerman, and Linda Hansen, Area  
6 Manager, BLM, and they are the ones that make the line  
7 decisions, day-to-day things, in charge of law  
8 enforcement, sign the dotted line when there's a fire?  
9 That's why they make the big bucks. So that's the line  
10 relationship. Any questions on that? No?

11 Next is the core staff. The core Monument  
12 staff was an agreement of the Forest Service and BLM  
13 working together of what we could possibly hire with the  
14 budget that we had, proposed budgeting, as well as  
15 full-time equivalency, which is something in the  
16 government which counts the amount of people you can  
17 have hired at one time.

18 We have the manager position and designated  
19 Federal official, me, community planner, Connell, the  
20 interpretive specialist, which is currently being  
21 advertised, it's an OPM job on the worldwide web.

22 We have the Visitor Center position we filled,  
23 one at BLM, Bonnie Adkins, and Pam Hansen, who is a  
24 Forest Service employee, but both are at the visitor  
25 center.

1           Two recreation technicians that's currently  
2   being advertised by BLM and the Forest Service, and we  
3   have a law enforcement ranger, named Lisa Wirtz,  
4   currently appointed for the program, a college coop  
5   conversion she is going through the program that has to  
6   be done for anybody that is a federal enforcement  
7   officer.

8           Any questions on the core staff?

9           MR. MORGAN: Jeff Morgan. What's the position  
10   of the recreation technicians, what do they do?

11          MS. GEORGE: They are people out on the  
12   grounds, folks on the trail, doing trail maintenance,  
13   providing information to folks out on the trails, they  
14   will be doing restoration of highways, they are going to  
15   be the eyes and ears of the Monument out there. What I  
16   call the contributing staff. It's the BLM and Forest  
17   Service and State Parks and California Department of  
18   Fish and Game. I feel they are the contributing staff  
19   in this Monument.

20          From the Federal agency, BLM, Jim Foote is  
21   Recreation, Ron Lawson for the Forest Service,  
22   Wildlife/Biology is Rachelle Huddleston-Lorton for BLM  
23   and Anne Poopatanapong is the Forest Service Biologist,  
24   Joel Schultz is another biologist at BLM.

25          Planning is Elena Misquez and Ruth Wenstrom for

1 Forest Service. Fire is Ron Woycheck for BLM, Norm  
2 Walker for Forest Service, and Tom Sherman is also for  
3 BLM, and he is over on the other side of the hill.

4 Land is Natalie Guzman BLM, and Forest Service  
5 is John Regelbrugge, Minerals is Steve Kupferman and  
6 also geologist for BLM is the gentleman who gave the  
7 presentation one time, some of you were there.

8 Wilderness, we lost our wilderness person for  
9 BLM, he is now going to Colorado. Melinda Lyon is the  
10 Wilderness person. That too will be advertised.

11 Cultural Resources is Wanda Raschkow for BLM,  
12 Daniel McCarthy for the Forest Service, and GIS right  
13 now is Ingrid Johnson BLM, and Chris Chandler for the  
14 Forest Service, and then the liaison to the Monument  
15 from the Forest Service is Fran Colwell.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Is it fair to suggest that  
17 Tom Sherman is over the hill?

18 MS. GEORGE: Any questions on the work  
19 organization structure? That was it on the staff. The  
20 last thing was just anniversary events, I wanted to  
21 share that thought, if it would be appropriate to bring  
22 it to the Committee.

23 We have sent out an e-mail to some folks, and  
24 what I would like to ask if people on the Committee  
25 would like to themselves or know of folks that would be

1 interested of a brainstorming session on May 30th from  
2 9:00 to 10:30 at BLM to think about the two-year plan of  
3 not only the anniversary event of the Monument, but some  
4 events that your communities may be doing or  
5 organizations may be doing that would link -- go well  
6 with the Monument. That's what this meeting is going to  
7 be about.

8 This meeting will be with jurisdictions and  
9 with non-profit, Desert Museum, Living Museum. We hope  
10 to get the Children's Desert Museum on May 30th. What  
11 comes out of that will be shared with the interagency  
12 work group who also look at events over the next two  
13 years, things such as Public Land day, stuff we have  
14 planned for that, Clean-up Day, these sort of things.

15 And linking those together, so we have a  
16 strategy for two years for events where we have lead  
17 time, we would like at least four months of lead time to  
18 plan for these events.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any questions? Running just  
20 a bit behind.

21 Committee Work Group discussions, we'll begin  
22 with a presentation by Bill Havert.

23 MR. HAVERT: We had a meeting with that working  
24 group in March. There were two members of this  
25 Committee and two members of the public at that meeting.

1 We looked at a map at the meeting, and I have it here.  
2 I think because of the size it's not readable, so maybe  
3 starting at one end, you can pass it around as I talk.

4 What we did at the meeting was to review what  
5 the recent history of the acquisition efforts in the  
6 National Monument. Acquisitions have really been going  
7 on here for a very, very long time, certainly well  
8 before the Monument itself was created. We just looked  
9 at what has happened in the last 10, 12 years, it  
10 corresponds with when the Monument -- well before the  
11 Monument was established as a national scenic area in  
12 1990.

13 Since that time, there have been acquisitions  
14 accomplished by the Bureau of Land Management, Forest  
15 Service, State and Wildlife Conservation Board, the  
16 Coachella Valley Mountain Conservancy, the Friends of  
17 the Desert Mountains, the non-profit organization the  
18 Wildlife Conservancy and other non-profit organizations,  
19 the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, County of  
20 Riverside, city of Palm Springs, city of Palm Desert,  
21 Rancho Mirage, La Quinta, and if I have forgotten any  
22 entity, agency, any individual or otherwise, I  
23 apologize.

24 The point being that this is very much a  
25 multi-agency and multi-interest partnership that has an

1 established history and is ongoing at this point. The  
2 vehicle for doing acquisitions has ranged from land and  
3 water conservation fund money, which is a federal source  
4 that Congress appropriates to the two agencies.

5 BLM has received an appropriation virtually  
6 every year since the national scenic area was  
7 established for acquisitions in the Monument area.  
8 Forest Service receives appropriations from that same  
9 fund. At the State level, the majority of the funding  
10 has come from State fund measures, and there may have  
11 been some years some general fund money went through the  
12 Wildlife Conservation Board for acquisition.

13 Local jurisdictions have done acquisitions, in  
14 some instances with their own funds, general fund money,  
15 they have done it through dedication, through the  
16 private development adjacent to the mountains that may  
17 have included some of the mountainous area.

18 Grants is another source of funds for  
19 acquisition, and individual contributions, and Adopt an  
20 Acre funds that the Friends of the Desert Mountains and  
21 the Conservancy generally use, and there have been some  
22 land donations in the National Monument as well.

23 In addition to all of those, the Monument  
24 legislation also recognizes a land exchange program  
25 between Agua Caliente Indians and BLM, and that program,

1 I think, is codified in a memorandum, an understanding  
2 or some form of agreement between the two entities for  
3 acquisitions to occur to the National Monument.

4 The goals of the acquisition program are to  
5 protect scenic resources in the National Monument,  
6 protect biological wildlife resources, protect cultural  
7 resources, provide recreational opportunities and to  
8 improve management by the agencies in the National  
9 Monument.

10 Individual agencies may have different goals  
11 for their acquisition program. The Wildlife  
12 Conservation Board focuses on Bighorn sheep habitat and  
13 the protection of other endangered species. The  
14 conservancy mandate includes the scenic resources,  
15 cultural resources and so on.

16 I think the BLM mandate is broader, the Forest  
17 Service's would be broader and obviously individual  
18 non-profit entities would focus on a variety of  
19 different goals, offering support of the State and  
20 Federal agencies, and the individual cities, of course,  
21 essentially focusing on protecting the scenic background  
22 from their vicinities and ensuring trail opportunities,  
23 or whatever the case may be.

24 At the meeting there was a question raised  
25 about how the Trails plans relate to the acquisition

1 program in terms of the land ownership pattern. On that  
2 map you can actually see the trails as thin lines. Some  
3 of us may need to take our glasses off and squint, but  
4 they are shown on there.

5 So you can see that a lot of trails do go  
6 through public land, some of these trails right now are  
7 on private lands. Again, one of the reasons to acquire  
8 land is to ensure opportunities for trail that may  
9 contribute to trail use on public lands. Alternatively,  
10 you can buy easements, but in many instances buying fee  
11 ownership is the best way to ensure.

12 That's the support of the working group, and  
13 I'll be happy to answer any questions.

14 MR. BOGERT: What about the Land and Water  
15 Conservation, any comment on that?

16 MR. HAVERT: Yes. Again, I think in the past  
17 10 or 12 years, I think we have received 11 or \$12  
18 million from that funding source. I think this current  
19 fiscal year was 1 million and there's a proposal for the  
20 next fiscal year being considered by Congress now for  
21 some additional funding. I think the present budget  
22 proposal is 1.5 or is it 1 again? It's 1.

23 The Forest Service would also receive land and  
24 water conservation funds, at least up to this point the  
25 Forest Service project has been the San Bernardino



1 National Forest line. They don't have a specific item  
2 for the National Monument, which has been BLM's project,  
3 but because the Forest Service is set up the unit of the  
4 San Bernardino National Forest, with respect to the  
5 appropriations of the Forest Service agency has received  
6 in the past years, some of it has been spent in the San  
7 Bernardino Mountains in that portion of the forest, some  
8 over here in the National Monument boundaries.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions?

10 MR. BOGERT: Has Mrs. Ludkin's property been  
11 purchased recently?

12 MR. HAVERT: No. Well, I actually do believe  
13 that the tribe acquired a small portion of that a year  
14 or so ago, one small piece.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other questions? Thank you,  
16 Bill.

17 Bob Brockman.

18 MR. BROCKMAN: Thank you. We have a planning  
19 work group meeting on March 25th, we had a total of 12  
20 people in attendance, five of which were Advisory  
21 Committee members.

22 A lot of what was discussed at that meeting has  
23 already been covered today in an earlier discussion of  
24 the relationship of plans to one another because that  
25 was one of the main topics of discussion in our work

1 group meeting. To that end, we did discuss the  
2 relationship between the Monument Plan and the CDCA  
3 Plan.

4 Tom Davis was there to give us a review of the  
5 tribal planning activities for their own habitat  
6 conservation plan, as well as a description of the land  
7 exchanges that they have with BLM and some of the other  
8 activities pursuant to their management agreement in the  
9 Monument area.

10 The tribe HCP is expected to be certified  
11 according to Tom by Fish and Wildlife, hopefully, in the  
12 nine- to 12-month period, so it's moving along. He  
13 discussed those portions that are in the Monument area,  
14 which are in preservation status, and he referenced an  
15 85 percent conservation target in the Bighorn sheep  
16 habitat for the tribal plan.

17 We also reviewed the status of the outdated  
18 Mt. Jacinto State Park plan, and I think after, of  
19 course, we also discussed the multi-species planning  
20 process. It was the feeling of the subgroup that in  
21 order to try to understand the relationship of all these  
22 plans, we needed to have some method by which to compare  
23 both policies and designations on a map.

24 It was the designations on the map comparison  
25 that led to the idea of some sort of GIS process and

1 then that we heard there might be some funding  
2 limitations at BLM for doing that kind of comparative  
3 analysis because the current GIS positions were being  
4 fully occupied with the multi-species plan.

5 We also discussed the need to compare the  
6 policies that might be inherent in all these other plans  
7 in some sort of a matrix fashion. Underlying all of  
8 this, as Connell had described earlier, was the desire  
9 to try to make consistent all of the various goals and  
10 objectives by the time we're all said and done with  
11 this.

12 So that's pretty much a summary of what our  
13 work group discussed last month. We have scheduled our  
14 last meeting, I believe is May 7th at Rancho Mirage City  
15 Hall, and I'll try to answer questions now.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Thank you.  
17 Frank Bogert.

18 MR. BOGERT: Our study group was an access and  
19 multiple use. When you take most of the monuments  
20 around the country, you have one entrance and one exit,  
21 and what this group came up with was 28 trail heads that  
22 go into the Monument. At some time the bureau is going  
23 to decide which of these they have designated in that  
24 group, and we hope to find a designation for all the  
25 trails all over the Valley.

1                   We have three roads that go into the Monument:  
2   Dunn Road and the Santa Rosa Mountain Road and the  
3   Sawmill Road. They go no place and stop, so we don't  
4   concern with much of them, but the Dunn Road was that we  
5   could do something to preserve that road. It's the only  
6   road where the access to the Monument where handicapped  
7   and old people like me can come through driving and see  
8   the park, a most beautiful park.

9                   We suggested that, at some time in the future,  
10   that Dunn Road put bridges across the canyon, which  
11   would then bring the Dunn Road down to 111. That was  
12   completely canceled, the road from Cathedral City up and  
13   got rid of that all together. I think this is a very  
14   important thing for the future is to keep the Dunn Road  
15   and their lands from future development and build a  
16   bridge.

17                  The other road -- the only other road we have  
18   that goes up to the Andreas Canyon out here, that's a  
19   private road where only 22 of us go up there. Salt  
20   Creek, we have had a lot of discussions with them, but  
21   they just want to have a road coming in and build trails  
22   around them to keep people out of the village and out of  
23   their archeological site.

24                  That's about all of our report. We've had two  
25   meetings with about 12 to 14 people, and my biggest

1 difficulty is getting the word out to the public. I've  
2 only got two newspapers, the radios won't take it, the  
3 televisions won't take it, and it's very difficult to  
4 get word out to the public. We have the same problem  
5 with this group really. Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Bill?

7 MR. HAVERT: Frank, it sounds that you are  
8 probably the ones also looking at issues, such as  
9 monumentation to the consensus, where there are new  
10 signs identifying the National Monument, look at things,  
11 such as would there may be another major entry to the  
12 Visitor Center, type of thing.

13 You've got one at Palm Desert, at the base of  
14 Highway 74, which tells you you're going into the  
15 National Monument from the desert side, seems to be  
16 ultimately having one up into the high elevation side in  
17 the forest makes sense as well, so you catch visitors  
18 regardless of which direction they are coming from and  
19 sort of point out the different experiences or different  
20 environment of lower and high elevations.

21 There are certainly people on the tram, they  
22 get up to the upper tram station and State Park, you  
23 have another kind of entry, another kind of experience,  
24 people driving through.

25 And then I guess sort of a broader question

1     then is how does that sort of discussion fit into the  
2     development of the National Monument plan?  Is this  
3     something that was we're going to be brought up in the  
4     meeting today?

5             MR. BOGERT:  We brought it up, and also the  
6     maintenance of trails, at present, have maintained all  
7     their trails for 30 years.

8             Now, apparently the BLM or somebody else is  
9     going to take over the trails.  We don't let them sit  
10    with the tramway as one exit, and then there's a lot of  
11    trails up on top, so we do consider that as one and the  
12    Indian Canyon, we'd have one that could cover about  
13    eight trails.  And like you said, it would be great to  
14    have a designation to something where the trails were  
15    signs and stuff to do it.

16            MR. HAVERT:  The idea has come up before.  If  
17    you exit Ides Canyon on Highway 111 and you get your  
18    first grand view of the Monument looking all the way up  
19    to San Jacinto peak and having some sort of sign there,  
20    even better would be a turnout and people could stop.  
21    So to have something there saying this is the National  
22    Monument, it would be a first exposure to them.

23            MR. BOGERT:  Several people at Snow Creek have  
24    been very interested in getting a road into there.  
25    They want us to make a little better road and to keep

1 people out of their archeological site and the private  
2 area and make a trail of some kind over to the  
3 waterfall. Could be a very interesting trail. On a  
4 lower level it wouldn't bother the Bighorn sheep.

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other comments or questions?  
6 Yes, Jeff.

7 MR. MORGAN: Jeffrey Morgan. I've been looking  
8 at this issue of additional trails along with the  
9 working group, along with my fellow friends from the  
10 Sierra Club. We've come up with very similar ideas for  
11 new trail heads and new trails. Snow Creek area is one  
12 of them. In the Pinyon area, we have another idea  
13 there, the head of Dutch Charlie Canyon.

14 Also the Forest Service property, the Rancho  
15 Sloan property as it's called, not necessarily on the --  
16 through the gate where it's kind of steep. But below,  
17 where there's a flat areas of Forest Service land, ideal  
18 place, and suggest that the new access trail through the  
19 Rancho Sloan property as a trail not as a road would  
20 give immediate access to local monuments and Pacific  
21 Crest trail.

22 There's an area that you can't get that without  
23 walking a heck of a long way right now because they have  
24 private land issues. Those are the three things that  
25 I'm suggesting. I will have them in the preliminary

1 mapping stage within the next week and have the whole  
2 maps ready for the agencies to look at.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any comments, questions?  
4 Yes, Bill.

5 MR. HAVERT: If it would be of interest to the  
6 Committee, I wonder if we might have Laurie Rosenthal  
7 from the Forest Service to just take a minute and maybe  
8 talk about the ideas that she has been thinking about,  
9 the access points on the high side of the Desert  
10 National Monument.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Laurie?

12 MS. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Bill. Now, I  
13 brought this up at the first Trails Committee meeting,  
14 and I was actually asking whether the Advisory Committee  
15 wanted to make a recommendation even in their Monument  
16 plan. At that time it sounded like it was something  
17 that at least the Committee was interested in, so I'll  
18 just quickly tell you what I told them.

19 Have you all been to the ranger district office  
20 up in Idyllwild? No?

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Been past it.

22 MS. ROSENTHAL: It's right on 243, and in the  
23 most outstanding location, one can imagine if you're  
24 going through Idyllwild, it's very, very small -- we  
25 have people kind of squeeze in like sardines in the



1 visitor portion of it.

2           We have gotten a small amount of money to do  
3 some minor renovations over this next year, which will  
4 include a bigger visitor area but not that much bigger,  
5 and a conference room and rest rooms. Believe it or  
6 not, there's no public rest rooms in Idyllwild right  
7 now. So this to me, I'm hoping, since this is a dream  
8 factory here is phase 1.

9           And my vision, and other people that I've  
10 talked to of phase 2 and maybe a phase 3 would be making  
11 this a northern portal for the Monument. This would  
12 include a multi-agency information area, discovery  
13 center education, very well focussed on education, some  
14 interpretive exhibits, et cetera, et cetera. State of  
15 the art, doesn't have to be huge.

16           There's some property, two lots right next  
17 door, we can't do this with what we have right now  
18 property-wise, there's no place to expand, but there's  
19 some property that opened up next door to us, then it  
20 went into escrow and we got really disappointed, and  
21 then it fell out of escrow and we got really happy  
22 again.

23           We're at the point where now government can't  
24 just go and out and buy something like you all  
25 could, we're struggling with that. Bill is helping us

1 maybe in the future or maybe the conservancy buying this  
2 land or maybe leasing it, all sorts of things.  
3 Also, we have been talking to Mary Bono a little bit  
4 about this as well, as far as wouldn't this be  
5 fantastic.

6 The other part of the dream machine here is  
7 that we're looking into making the scenic byway, the one  
8 right now, that's a state scenic highway, making it into  
9 national scenic highway, that's the desert up to  
10 Pines --

11 MR. HAVERT: Palm.

12 MS. ROSENTHAL: Palm or Pines, whatever. This  
13 is all part of the same puzzle. We have right now  
14 somebody within the Forest Service looking into applying  
15 for a national designation. This will also include a  
16 quarter management plan, this would be awesome.

17 We're talking about a whole package thing where  
18 visitors would come in, start out at the mountains, go  
19 down to the desert or vice versa, a whole interpretive  
20 plan that would include both visitor centers and  
21 everything in between and around the Monument.

22 I'm thinking big, but what I had presented to  
23 the trails, slash, education sub-committee -- can we  
24 call them that?

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: No, working group.

1 MS. ROSENTHAL: Sorry, working group. They  
2 might want to present this to the MAC here, if it was  
3 something you were interested in supporting.

4 Again, this is a supporting thing, then it  
5 would help Congress. It's not cheap and would need to  
6 have some additional Congressional funds, et cetera, to  
7 do this right, and we don't want to do it if we can't do  
8 it right.

9 I guess I'm asking -- for what I'm asking the  
10 trails, slash, education working group to present if  
11 they are interested is maybe even incorporating this  
12 into the Monument plan as one of something on the wish  
13 list or just maybe opening it up for a little  
14 discussion.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Discussions?

16 MS. WATLING: Ruth Watling. The federal  
17 national scenic designation, there's been some concern  
18 in our community of the few people who have heard of  
19 that, the comment of how it would make the highway  
20 different functionally than it is now. We would  
21 regulate it up to the creek.

22 MS. ROSENTHAL: I don't think that the  
23 regulation designation would be any different, it still  
24 would probably be the State, all the funds would come  
25 through the State as far as I know.

1           One thing, it could provide if we do the  
2     quarter management plan is looking at the safety  
3     aspects. That is a big concern. Danella and I attended  
4     a Highway 74 Committee recently and we drove the highway  
5     and there's definitely concerns there. We don't want to  
6     make it less safe because we have more people going on  
7     it. That would be included in the quarter management  
8     plan.

9           What can we do, if we're going to bring more  
10    people here, what can we do to have more turnouts, safer  
11    turnouts, some of the turnouts just come up on you, more  
12    signage, all kinds of the things like that, that would  
13    all be part of a quarter management plan.

14           MS. WATLING: Would the application be through  
15    CalTrans then or separately?

16           MS. ROSENTHAL: I'm not sure exactly how that  
17    works, but there would be quite a few partners that  
18    would present this application, I think it's the Federal  
19    Highway Department, and CalTrans would one of them.

20           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any comments, questions?  
21    Jeff?

22           MR. MORGAN: Jeffrey Morgan. Speaking of the  
23    Highway 74, what is the scenic route, a couple of weeks  
24    ago, there was an application put before the County for  
25    a 120-foot tall cell phone transmitter on Highway 74

1 about half way between Pinyon and Vista Point, and that  
2 would have been right on the edge of this and would have  
3 been visible for miles and miles and miles. And I  
4 obviously commented to the County on it as did several  
5 other people, and the application was withdrawn not  
6 necessarily because of our comments.

7 In my communications with the County at that  
8 time, I asked them if one of the things like that was  
9 going to occur in the future, to communicate with the  
10 Advisory Committee member, specifically the planning  
11 part of it, to see if this is the right thing in this  
12 kind of place.

13 Anyway, currently the application was withdrawn  
14 as was several others for Highway 74.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Very good. Gary?

16 MR. WATTS: Gary Watts. Laurie, we like to  
17 consider our campground a pretty nice area, but have you  
18 been working with the State Parks staff as well when you  
19 talk about the multi-agencies especially since we're  
20 partners with the Wilderness management and in the  
21 Monument, that type of thing. If you haven't, I would  
22 encourage you to involve our staff as soon as you can.

23 MS. ROSENTHAL: From what I understand, I'm  
24 fairly new, but in the past my predecessor was working  
25 pretty closely with them. And I believe there was some

1 very positive feelings about it and things, of course,  
2 need to happen again. I fully agree with that.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any comments or questions?  
4 Laurie, is there -- is it proper for this Committee to  
5 address a location that is so far outside from the  
6 Monument lines?

7 MS. ROSENTHAL: I would say yes, because it  
8 influences the Monument. If it was considered the  
9 northern portal to the Monument and part of the scenic  
10 byway, then to me it would be just part of the overall  
11 plan of where visitors go and how they experience the  
12 Monument.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Could we as part of our  
14 planning for the Monument call for planning outside of  
15 the Monument boundaries?

16 MS. DUNNING: The actions that will be in the  
17 Monument's plan as written will only affect those plans  
18 within the boundary lines, but certainly an interpretive  
19 plan worked out separately than the management plan, an  
20 assigned plan, things like that, could involve this and  
21 have input from the Monument Advisory Committee and also  
22 have input from both staff agencies.

23 So this could be something that could be  
24 developed as part of the -- as incorporative, I guess in  
25 a company's interpretive plan, yeah, I think. I would

1     see that as being an important role we want to address.  
2     Visitor use we want to address how to increase and how  
3     to manage visitor use, and if the community of Idyllwild  
4     and the Forest Service is based there, and that is one  
5     of the ways to help steer the users to the Monument,  
6     then I can see recommendation for a plan that might not  
7     be in the Monument plans, but an interpretive plan, for  
8     instance.

9             CHAIRMAN KIBBEY:  So this would probably come  
10    under your area, Bob, of planning in suggesting an  
11    interpretive plan that might include this west entrance,  
12    I would think.

13            MR. BROCKMAN:  As you say, yes.

14            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY:  Thank you.

15            MR. BOGERT:  Our study group also included  
16    multiple use, and the multiple use we'd come up with is  
17    riding and hiking and mountain bike trails that were  
18    designated in the past.  We found no place for off-road  
19    vehicles to even be considered.

20            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY:  Okay.  Now, Danella.

21            MS. GEORGE:  Mr. Chair, with respect to  
22    Laurie's presentation, we're going to ask the gentlemen  
23    that's doing the grant for Forest Service, Bob Loudon,  
24    to do a presentation to the Advisory Committee, probably  
25    be on the August agenda, and it will be much more

1       staffed out, a lot more information for that.

2               The other thing too, we expect to find some  
3       information for the Committee is when we had our first  
4       board meeting for Forest Service and BLM, we still  
5       needed to do two portal signs this year, one up in the  
6       high elevation and one probably at Snow Creek. So that  
7       is something that we're hoping to accomplish.

8               CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. Bill?

9               MR. HAVERT: Yes, one more question. Did you  
10      have any discussion of potential locations or  
11      opportunities or things like short and self-guided  
12      interpretive hikes?

13              MS. GEORGE: We haven't come with any or  
14      brought to the meeting, haven't done anything about it.  
15      Certainly something we have to consider.

16              CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Next report at this time.  
17      Barbara?

18              MS. GONZALES-LYONS: I don't have it at this  
19      time. We will be meeting next month.

20              CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Very good. Plan outline  
21      preparation plan for the Resource Management plan was  
22      handed out in your original -- the original was handed  
23      out in your original folder. I hope all of you have  
24      read that or see in there that there are certain  
25      specific areas that are already listed in my mind that



1 some of our Committee could look to. I direct your  
2 attention to page 7, paragraph 1 at the bottom of the  
3 page where it says, "Securing and obtaining legal  
4 motorized access into the Canyon ....."

5 Are there issues with the wilderness? Do you  
6 understand relocation conflicting with alternative  
7 access routes to constrictive proposals? I would  
8 suggest both access and land to be looked at in  
9 discussing this aspect and perhaps making some  
10 recommendations to this regard. It sounds like BLM  
11 would like this.

12 Paragraph 2, private land. A large portion of  
13 private land exists within this wilderness. Is there an  
14 opportunity to acquire land as part of the strategies?  
15 I would suggest the landmark group might be looking to  
16 some areas that would recommend it as being high  
17 priority in this area or this portion.

18 Then if you turn to page 15 of the same  
19 document, it's the projected dates meetings for the  
20 National Monument plan. There's some good information  
21 in here that I think all work groups would look to all  
22 ideas of discussion and areas where they might be  
23 helping specifically BLM.

24 The work groups are an information-gathering  
25 device, so does this -- meaning here, and thanks to our

1 reporter many of the comments made here I think are  
2 germane to planning by BLM, and I hope BLM and their  
3 planning process would use these comments and not wait  
4 for a specific direction or idea from one of the work  
5 groups. They are an extension of the Committee. The  
6 reason they bring the work group comments back here is  
7 to raise discussion as they have here today and kind of  
8 reach the thought process so these ideas come out.

9 Danella, I would like you and your staff, and  
10 also Laurie and her staff to look to the Minutes and  
11 take these ideas out as suggestions from this Committee,  
12 which then represents those who in the future would use  
13 this Monument. I think our process is working well.

14 It was commented earlier by Bill that perhaps  
15 our four work groups are not sufficient, perhaps we want  
16 to look at that and see if we want to set up perhaps  
17 another work group that works more closely to a specific  
18 subject.

19 Any questions?

20 Bill, I turn to you.

21 MR. HAVERT: I didn't have a specific  
22 recommendation. My thought was that having had the  
23 presentation from Connell on the broader issue in the  
24 National Monument plan, that we simply take a look at  
25 those, compare them to our existing work group and see

1 if there's a deficiencies. Seems like a group exercise.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Do you want to begin? Do you  
3 have a deficiency, or do you feel that our present work  
4 groups would cover those areas that Connell brought up?

5 MR. HAVERT: Let me comment on that and ask the  
6 BLM staff who spend most of the time speaking about the  
7 content time of the management plan to see if there's  
8 any glaring deficiencies. Maybe Danella or Connell.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Connell, come to the  
10 microphone.

11 MS. DUNNING: Connell Dunning, BLM. I think  
12 what might help is to look through those questions and  
13 see if those are preliminary questions that we offered  
14 and look to see if those are questions that the work  
15 groups could look at as opposed to meeting and talking  
16 about trails, maybe meeting and talking about where we  
17 could -- where trails might exist that are inconsistent  
18 coming down or up, if we know management techniques  
19 there were inconsistent, we need them, find  
20 inconsistencies that would be subject to direct the  
21 Trails group.

22 For example, acquisitions, something that would  
23 help in planning as to identify all of the different  
24 groups that are involved in acquisitions and see if  
25 there's a forum to establish maybe a matrix of how each

1 of those groups prioritize.

2           You're much more aware of that acquisition  
3 status of each of these agencies, but something that you  
4 could help bring to us to help understand what the  
5 prioritization is in looking at each of those questions  
6 and seeing if each of the groups can answer those kind  
7 of questions and asking the Advisory Committee where the  
8 questions raised that seem like issues that could be  
9 used in the form of a working group.

10           MR. HAVERT: I think that's a good point.

11           Quickly looking at it, I don't have specific  
12 deficiencies that call for a specific working group.  
13 Connell made a great point that if the working group  
14 ensures that they are focusing on some of these  
15 questions, some of these questions need to be addressed  
16 in the management plan.

17           Perhaps at our next meeting when the working  
18 groups have a chance to talk, we can address some of  
19 those questions and report to the full Committee.

20           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you, Connell.

21           MS. GEORGE: The questions you are referring to  
22 are on page 3 of the handout?

23           MS. DUNNING: Yes. Another question we had a  
24 concern about, Frank's concern about getting word out to  
25 public. I would suggest that each of the work groups if

1     they have a date, time, place available to use the  
2     Advisory Committee to comment as to when and where their  
3     next meeting will be. That's one way of getting it out  
4     to the public.

5             If it's commented here, we can put it on our  
6     web page when it's functional if that's something you  
7     would like to do with your work groups. If not, you  
8     don't need to. It's a suggestion.

9             CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: If each of the work group  
10    would care to let me know as soon as possible when their  
11    meeting is going to be held, I would take it upon myself  
12    to use a few contacts of mine to get it on radio,  
13    newspaper, also onto print.

14            MR. HAVERT: Does the public access and  
15    recreation working group include interpretive  
16    opportunities, visitor services, that full gamut of the  
17    things?

18            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I would suggest that's more  
19    under planning.

20            MR. HAVERT: Okay, just asking.

21            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other comments?

22            MS. GEORGE: To what Bill just said, there is a  
23    movement on this thing called visitor supply. Now,  
24    that's with the Recreation component. It does seem to  
25    me to look at visitors for the future of the Monument,

1 visitor supplies, what their experience is going to be  
2 is interpretive as well as recreational.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other comments, concerns?  
4 We then turn to the summarization meeting and the next  
5 meeting needs from the Committee. It is already -- I'm  
6 not going to summarize the next meeting. I think it's  
7 already scheduled for Fish and Game to be here. You  
8 mentioned someone else that was going to be at the next  
9 meeting.

10 MS. GEORGE: I basically have a staff agenda  
11 for you to review. It will be Fish and Game, also we  
12 will focus on cultural program resources related to the  
13 Monument plan.

14 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any Committee members have a  
15 desire for a specific subject to be addressed at the  
16 next meeting or in mind as useful to be addressed?  
17 Hearing none, I think that gives us three minutes to  
18 kill before we begin the public comment section. Could  
19 I have a list please for those who signed up?

20 MS. GEORGE: This is what I have received.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's this morning.

22 MS. DUNNING: It will be 3:30 to 4:00.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We have more time to kill  
24 then.

25 Bary?

1                   MR. FREET: If I could kill some time?

2                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Please do.

3                   MR. FREET: Back to the discussion that Danella

4                   had concerning the one-year appointments, myself being

5                   one of those, I have made contact to the appropriate

6                   staff and supervisorial persons in the city that I

7                   represent, and to my knowledge they have not been

8                   responsive, but I don't know.

9                   So my request, I guess, would be, could there

10                  be a letter sent reminding them they need an appointment

11                  or reminding them if that's what they wish to do from

12                  your office?

13                  MS. GEORGE: What I want to do is find out the

14                  exact process before I commit to that. If I can't do it

15                  as DFO, I'm sure the Chair can do it as Chairman. That

16                  is something we do need to go over, the one-year

17                  appointment individuals and a status check.

18                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So bearing that in mind,

19                  starting with you, Bary. Who would we contact, Bary?

20                  MR. FREET: It would be Don Bradley, city

21                  manager of Cathedral City.

22                  MS. GEORGE: Could you spell that name?

23                  MR. FREET: B-r-a-d-l-e-y.

24                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Next will be Larry, your

25                  one-year appointment, are you having any problems?

1                   MR. GRAFTON: Larry Grafton, Indian Wells. I  
2     have not heard. Again, they have been unresponsive. I  
3     suggest that a letter be written to the assistant city  
4     manager, Joe Bulop -- don't ask me to spell the last  
5     name -- hopefully, they can get the ball rolling.

6                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Mr. Havert, is there someone  
7     we can write to, to help right you out?

8                   MR. HAVERT: We are all set.

9                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Do you have to fill out the  
10    forms?

11                  MR. HAVERT: Yeah. The Board has recommended  
12    we just have to send it.

13                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: You will be doing it post  
14    haste?

15                  MR. HAVERT: Forthwith.

16                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Forthwith, post haste,  
17    whatever?

18                  MR. HAVERT: Yes.

19                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: And Bob Lyman?

20                  MR. LYMAN: He has indicated that he will  
21    renominate myself. I just need a format to send that.

22                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: The form, I believe, was  
23    fowarded to all members. Would you like it resent?

24                  MR. LYMAN: Please.

25                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Would you, please?



1                   Danella?

2                   MS. GEORGE: This isn't a nomination, but a  
3                   reappointment. If you are the reappointment person, the  
4                   packet is already done, a letter, it's already there.  
5                   We'll still send you the form, fill it out again, send  
6                   that form and a short cover letter to reappoint.

7                   And who are we going to send them to,  
8                   Mr. Chairman, you or me?

9                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I suggest they go to you  
10                  because then you can process them to Washington.

11                  MS. GEORGE: And Mr. Parkins?

12                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: The late Mr. Parkins. I'll  
13                  pull his chain. That's a technical term.

14                  MS. GEORGE: It is April now, we probably need  
15                  to get these out fairly soon.

16                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Define "fairly."

17                  MS. GEORGE: It's a deadline. I think we will  
18                  make contact, figure out who has to do it by next week,  
19                  either the Chairman will make contact, or I will call  
20                  the respective offices who have not responded and ask  
21                  somebody's name be submitted by the end of April. Will  
22                  that work?

23                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Works for me. We still have  
24                  a few minutes to kill. Anybody got a hatchet?  
25                  Terry?

1 MS. HENDERSON: Terry Henderson. Just out of  
2 curiosity, even though I said I wasn't interested in the  
3 budget, once I kind of get interested, I do. I was not  
4 aware that the BLM would have a sub category for the  
5 Santa Rosa Monument, which is great, don't question  
6 that.

7 That brings up a question, then does the  
8 National Forest also have a line item for us?

9 MS. GEORGE: Not yet. They do not have it yet,  
10 2004. Laurie is the budget person. I saw a proposal.  
11 It's not a line item in the sense it's designated for  
12 Congress, you know, with language and appropriation  
13 bill. It does point out in their budget that there  
14 would be an allocation going to the Santa Rosa and San  
15 Jacinto Mountains National Monument.

16 MS. HENDERSON: Is that rotational? I know one  
17 year we have it from BLM and one year from the Forest.  
18 Would it be one year, one budget, and another year we  
19 may be in both budgets?

20 MS. GEORGE: We want it coming down from  
21 Department of Agriculture and Department of Interior.

22 MS. HENDERSON: Okay.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bob?

24 MR. BROCKMAN: In the last meeting, there was  
25 idea brought forth about a field trip and I wanted to

1 know if anybody has had a chance to think about that?

2 MS. GEORGE: I'm lost. What did you want,

3 Mr. Brockman?

4 MR. BROCKMAN: The idea I thought was to try to

5 schedule a field trip for the Advisory Committee so we

6 could visit various places within the Monument.

7 MS. GEORGE: I apologize. My understanding was

8 that you guys with your work task group was going to

9 look at that, you would identify where you wanted to go

10 and arrange a date.

11 MR. BROCKMAN: Maybe we need another work

12 group, I don't see it as a planning function.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think we have the people

14 here say that they would be climbing upon that bus or a

15 four-wheel-drive. What would people like to see on this

16 Committee. Anybody?

17 Start with Larry, what would you like to see?

18 MR. GRAFTON: I'll pass. I have to think about

19 that.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. Bob?

21 MR. LYMAN: I would like to see some of the

22 areas that have been identified through the cultural

23 resource area, also Martinez Canyon. We are involved

24 with that tribe, they do have cultural designs up and

25 through Sheep Canyon. I'd like to see some of those

1 areas.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Gary?

3 MR. WATTS: I'm pretty familiar with the Sheep

4 Canyon area pretty much. I would like to see the rest

5 of the Monument.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bob?

7 MR. BROCKMAN: Just a representative of -- I

8 don't know, just the various terrain and habitat.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Jeff?

10 MR. MORGAN: I'm fairly familiar with

11 everything in the Monument. I'll go along with

12 everything.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Good. You can be our guide

14 and do the commentary.

15 Frank?

16 MR. BOGERT: I would like to know why the hell

17 we have to wait here 15 minutes? Do you have to do

18 everything exactly the way it is?

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, it's been published and

20 we have to deal with it. Federal bureaucracy is a mess.

21 MR. BOGERT: I thank you, sir.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Ruth?

23 MS. WATLING: I live in the middle of it, so

24 I'm familiar with it.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bill?

1                   MR. HAVERT: I've had the chance to see a lot  
2 of it, so I'm happy.

3                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Terry?

4                   MS. HENDERSON: I'll label the new areas.

5                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Larry?

6                   MR. GRAFTON: I'll wait for new aerals. And  
7 again, any photographic work that needs to be done, that  
8 the staff feels we need to see, bring to the meeting to  
9 present.

10                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Barbara?

11                  MS. GONZALES LYONS: Either way. I'm game to  
12 go up there hiking in some of those areas. We need  
13 helicopters to look -- get to look at it, but I'm game.

14                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: If I may, I would suggest  
15 that we first go up to the Indian Canyon area up 74 and  
16 down the -- I'd say about two-thirds of Dunn Road and  
17 then swing over into the Gardner Valley and over to the  
18 Idyllwild to see the possible entry station that Laurie  
19 is suggesting.

20                  I think that would be a pretty full day of  
21 travel in all areas where a small bus can access, and I  
22 think that would give everyone the temperature of the  
23 Monument without having to revert to helicopters.

24                  Yes, Barbara?

25                  MS. GONZALES LYONS: The cultural area that

1     you're talking about, there wouldn't be access through  
2     our canyons. You would have to go up Dunn Road Park and  
3     hike a few miles in to get there. You're not talking  
4     about just the canyon area, you're talking about the  
5     ancestral cultural areas as well.

6             CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: My thinking was that we would  
7     stay pretty much on the bus and stay over there, that  
8     sort of thing rather than try to hike across it. Didn't  
9     even want to think about that problem, but it was --  
10    with people like the review board saying over in that  
11    area we have with Jeff, as I go there say hiking is  
12    great over there and here's what we see.

13            And who else? Bill, of course, has been over a  
14    good deal of it, Frank, a good deal of it saying here's  
15    what we have to offer. If you look across Palm Canyon,  
16    then there's areas that no one has ever on a general  
17    basis have accessed, maybe want to think about putting a  
18    trial over there, whatever.

19            My guess is to discuss the general aspects of  
20    the area while driving through those areas and give  
21    everyone a feel of what we're talking about, not all of  
22    us have been to all these places. We certainly have all  
23    the overall expertise to point out problems.

24            Yes, Gary.

25            MR. WATTS: I think you've laid out a wonderful

1       itinerary. I will support it.

2               CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Next question, any comments  
3       on the itinerary when can we do this? Would we like to  
4       take a start for a weekday?

5               MS. HENDERSON: Is there any reason why we  
6       presume this at some sort of meeting, therefore, it  
7       needs to be noticed or posted or whatever the  
8       regulations are.

9               CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: My feeling would be the  
10       combined work group having notification -- Danella, is  
11       it a combined work group?

12              MS. GEORGE: I would not be able to attend as a  
13       designated official. I'll be there as the Bureau of  
14       Land Management.

15              CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It's all right, I don't  
16       remember inviting you.

17              MS. GEORGE: Well, I need to go. We can do it  
18       more creatively. There's a way to do it, we'll figure  
19       that out. Let me find out, make sure we're clear on  
20       that.

21              CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Anything there that says you  
22       can't drive the bus?

23              MS. GEORGE: Sure, but I don't have a license  
24       for bus driving. Let me find that out, good point.  
25       Bary?

1                   MR. FREET: She can be the navigator, not the  
2 bus driver.

3                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: There you go, you do have  
4 other jobs. You couldn't be the certified public bus  
5 person.

6                   MS. GEORGE: In response to that question, if  
7 they feel that the Committee members requires a Federal  
8 Registration notice.

9                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I suggest it would if it were  
10 to be an official meeting, but it's not an official  
11 meeting, it's the combined work groups. We are all  
12 members of the work groups.

13                   Jim?

14                   MR. KENNA: Let me help you here. Yes, you can  
15 have the tour. It's not a noticed meeting, you can't  
16 provide any recommendations. It's informational, just a  
17 tour. It's not a problem.

18                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So back again to when we  
19 could do this?

20                   MS. WATLING: Before it gets hot.

21                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I would personally like it  
22 before our next meeting but that could be too soon.

23                   MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: How about before the  
24 summer months?

25                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella and I will come up



1 with some dates. How about I send out in the next week  
2 four or five dates and try to see how many we can make?

3 MS. HENDERSON: Could you include a  
4 non-Saturday to be included in that?

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: My thinking was to everyone  
6 include a Saturday on that list. You know me, I don't  
7 like Saturdays, I have places to go and things to do.

8 MS. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman, there is a meeting  
9 scheduled or field tour, internal tour on the 29th to  
10 look at Pinyon Fire. I don't know if that is something  
11 the Committee would be interested in making that a tour  
12 up Highway 74. It's a Wednesday.

13 When we were going to do that with the fire  
14 staffs, would it tend to impinge on our complete tour?  
15 In other words, where would they like to go on all these  
16 other areas? It's Wednesday the 29th of May. It's May  
17 29th.

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Well, as I said, you and I  
19 will get together, put together three or four days, send  
20 them out and go that route.

21 We are just about there. It's 3:30 and it's  
22 time for public comments. We have had four persons that  
23 indicate that they wish to present to the Committee. I  
24 would ask if you have printed comments that you hand  
25 them into Connell.

1               Raise your hand, Connell. Give those to her  
2 and you limit your comments to five minutes maximum.

3               Having said that, Gayle Cady?

4               MS. CADY: Good afternoon. My name is Gayle  
5 Cady. I live in Vista Santa Rosa. I'd like to address  
6 the issue of trails in our beautiful Santa Rosa and San  
7 Jacinto Mountains with regards to the sheep. I have a  
8 letter that I wrote to BLM in September 2001. I would  
9 like to read a few excerpts.

10              I have reviewed the August 27th, 2001  
11 environmental assessment on sheep research, Bighorn  
12 sheep. It is my understanding this study has the  
13 authority to authorize permits for individuals and  
14 agencies to conduct research on BLM management public  
15 plan to ensure longer life of endangered species such as  
16 Bighorn sheep.

17              In reading through the maze of paragraphs on  
18 information research with regards to Bighorn sheep, I  
19 want to make it clear then that I claim to be no expert  
20 in the long-term recovery of an endangered species, but  
21 I must say that the Bighorn research people haven't been  
22 able to save the sheep in the 40 years they have been  
23 researching the sheep, perhaps they should stop scaring  
24 them to death with their helicopters and leave them  
25 alone for a while, slow down some of the urban

1 development in our hills and perhaps help save the  
2 sheep.

3 Capture of sheep, there is no dispute in my  
4 mind that this causes incredible stress to the habitat  
5 and displacement of an animal. I have not had  
6 experience with the Bighorn sheep, however, I have been  
7 involved with a wild animal, mainly an ostrich for  
8 several years at my ranch. I raised ostriches. I had  
9 the incubators, nursery, and 60 adult ostrich.

10 I can tell you from my own personal experience  
11 that once an infant animal is traumatized, that the  
12 animal will be forever traumatized to that particular  
13 entity, meaning once they swoop down on those poor  
14 animals with a helicopter, shoot them with a gun,  
15 tranquilize then, cuff them with the radio collar, and  
16 then send them on their merry way, those animals have  
17 been forever traumatized to anything in the area, on  
18 land or human's touch or scent. That's a God-given  
19 fact.

20 Please, we need to stop accusing the occasional  
21 hiker, occasional equestrian person from being the main  
22 source of problem for the extinction of the Bighorn  
23 sheep population. I would very much like to see our  
24 trails that are not voluntarily posted with this poster  
25 by BLM for voluntary closure. I would very much like to

1 see them open again. We have -- do have a beautiful  
2 equestrian park there. It's sad that no one can spend  
3 the weekend at the park and enjoy our beautiful  
4 mountains or go horseback riding.

5 I will finalize my comments by saying today  
6 that even though we have all these Bighorn sheep  
7 research people, there's also a striking decline in the  
8 population of Bighorn Sheep. Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you very much.  
10 Next requested speaker, Nick Steffanoff.

11 MR. STEFFANOFF: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman.  
12 My name is Nick Steffanoff. I live in the Pinyon area  
13 off Highway 74. You've probably seen me here before  
14 today so I will kill five more of your minutes this  
15 afternoon.

16 You may have my comment card there. I want to  
17 comment on the boundaries, not to dispute them, I  
18 understand that's already been fixed, but more sort of  
19 within the boundaries. That is to say, as I look at the  
20 map and one that is published, I realize it's a  
21 preliminary brochure, certain areas look exempt.

22 The explanation is that it's private lands.  
23 There's two areas largely shown on the map exempting.  
24 I'm not proposing that it's all the private lands, but  
25 by drawing lines around them, that would result in a

1 sort of a Swiss cheese pattern in the area.

2 I am suggesting that maybe staff want to  
3 authorize or prepare a plan that does show where those  
4 lines are so that we can see this Swiss cheese  
5 momentarily at least to look at other issues that come  
6 up in the legislation for obvious political reasons.

7 It doesn't make a policy for firearms in an act  
8 like this on a National Monument so they have put in the  
9 act as you see in language to the effect that there's no  
10 infringement on hunting within the Monument. There is a  
11 substantial portion of the Monument that prohibits that  
12 from my point of view.

13 Since I live in one of the areas that is the  
14 throughout, that somebody could miss and even a  
15 22-caliber rifle is capable of killing you a mile away,  
16 an inherent bullet that hasn't hit its target is 40, 30  
17 is even greater once the private lands are identified.

18 I would suggest that you could take simply like  
19 a compass and place it on the corners of that on a map  
20 and take a mile and a half, or whatever is it  
21 appropriate, and start drawing those circles and see  
22 what's left of the Monument that could be shot at.  
23 Those people on those little pieces of lands like myself  
24 would be somewhat concerned that there's people out  
25 there within a mile range could be innocently or

1 ignorantly, whatever, click, and get me. That's my one  
2 concern.

3           The other has to do with, I guess, with the  
4 development. I handed in information on that. It would  
5 seem that out of 55,000 acres shown on the brochure and  
6 other materials that are private ownership against the  
7 272,000 acres, those are rough. It's about a fifth or  
8 close to 20 percent in private ownership, not including  
9 Indian land and agencies. I was just talking private.  
10 That those 20 percent do run the risk of everything else  
11 that happened.

12           On the 80 percent, I guess, we backed up the  
13 honey things and what happens on that 55,000 acres.  
14 There's a development, I hear some discussion, you start  
15 taking those numbers and break them out at current  
16 county zoning. Also, you have 50,000 people living up  
17 in the mountains, which probably don't want it.

18           For a National Monument, I'm not arguing the  
19 boundaries of the Monument, but suggest we either erase  
20 those areas and I'm trying to confer with staff as to  
21 where the line was drawn and three years and not all the  
22 others, I see the practical problems in applying that I  
23 would rather not do that, but I would have a policy  
24 rather than drafting a line around individual parcels.  
25 That's only privately.

1           Again, there's a lot of gaps in that map that  
2     will raise questions if we continue to publish and  
3     disseminate into the public, they are going to look at  
4     this and say, "What's the deal here," that kind of  
5     thing. That would be my concern relative to the  
6     boundary.

7           And I would entertain any questions. You're  
8     welcome to that area. If you get up there, don't try to  
9     hike it.

10           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you very much, sir.  
11     Next speaker is Dena Barmore.

12           MS. BARMORE: Hello everyone. Thank you for  
13     letting me speak today. Actually, I was entrusted with  
14     a letter by Nanci Stacey in regards to Desert Riders. I  
15     would like to read this letter. I think you have a copy  
16     in front of you.

17           "Dear Committee Members, on behalf of the  
18     Desert Riders" -- I need my glasses -- "I  
19     request that the Santa Rosa and Santa (sic)  
20     Jacinto Mountains National Monument maintain  
21     and provide access to the public throughout the  
22     year to the back country via historical trails  
23     within the Monument.

24           "The 106th Congress created the Santa Rosa  
25     and San Jacinto National Monument in part to

1       preserve the recreational and cultural values  
2       of the area. Of integral importance to those  
3       values are the historical trails of the  
4       Cahuilla and Desert Riders, the recreational  
5       access to the back county, and for those that  
6       are disabled or otherwise unable to travel in  
7       the back county by horseback or on foot, the  
8       unpaved Dunn Road.

9               "Desert Riders is a horse trail riding club  
10       that was organized in Palm Springs in  
11       1930. Palm Springs then had a population of  
12       1,040, and residents simply referred to it as  
13       'the village.' By 1932 Desert Riders began to  
14       maintain and improve trails in the surrounding  
15       mountains. Many of those trails maintained by  
16       Desert Riders were those of Cahuillas and  
17       predate the founding of Palm Springs.  
18       Katherine Seva Saubel is a respected scholar of  
19       the Cahuilla. She has served as present of the  
20       Morongo Reservations's Malki Museum and is the  
21       author of several books on the Cahuilla.

22               "In Doni Hubbard's book, 'Favorite Trails  
23       of the Desert Riders,' 1991, Katherine counsels  
24       that, '... Even before the horse these trails  
25       were the footpaths of our people. We had many



1 small villages in a vast area and these trails  
2 tied our people together. They were used for  
3 hunting, visiting, rituals and ceremonies.'  
4 The trails are an element of the culture that  
5 Congress mandates the Monument preserve.

6 "Cahuilla trails improved by Desert Riders  
7 include Dripping Springs, Vandeventer, Palm  
8 Canyon, Murray Canyon, Andreas Canyon, West  
9 Fork/Pelton, Boo Hoff, Eagle Canyon and Palm  
10 Trails. Old trails of the 1920s, 1930s, and  
11 40s include Lykken, Maynard, Wild horse and  
12 Araby. Beginning in the 1960s, Desert Riders  
13 constructed and maintained the Alexander,  
14 Garstin, Shannon, Henderson, Coffman Berns,  
15 Victor, Hahn, Bud Furer, Burgess and Morrow  
16 Trails.

17 "Desert Riders' members have volunteered  
18 tens of thousands of hours to repair and  
19 maintain trails for the enjoyment of the  
20 general public. For over 70 years, thousands  
21 of tourists, boy and girl scouts, hikers and  
22 riders have safely enjoyed their public lands  
23 on these trails. Forest Service personnel have  
24 used trails for fire control and the County  
25 Sheriff for rescue and patrol. Members of the

1 public and public agencies should continue to  
2 enjoy access provided by these trails and the  
3 back-country trails should be accessible during  
4 the winter and spring seasons when they are --  
5 Likely to be used.

6 "And with wildlife preservation, there are  
7 both those individuals that benefit from actual  
8 experience with the resource and those that  
9 simply benefit by knowing the resource is  
10 there. Here, in the Monument, there will be  
11 significant numbers of trail users that will  
12 actually enjoy the desert wilderness experience  
13 by hiking and riding on back-country trails and  
14 the Dunn Road. With education, the public can  
15 reduce or avoid negative impacts to wildlife  
16 and fauna within the Monument.

17 "For more than six or seven decades, Desert  
18 Riders has supported the public's right to  
19 access public lands in a responsible manner.  
20 Desert Riders urges the Committee to also  
21 support the public's right to responsible,  
22 access and use of the trails as well as provide  
23 back-country access to those members of the  
24 public that can neither hike, ride bicycles or  
25 travel horseback. Very sincerely, Nanci S.

1           Stacey."

2           CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you very much.

3           Ray Barmore.

4           MR. BARMORE: Good afternoon, I thank you again  
5 for a chance to comment. It's the end of day and our  
6 brains can endure only what our butts endure. It's hard  
7 to remember what I commented on at the beginning of the  
8 meeting, so I appreciate the opportunity to speak again.  
9 Firstly, to comment on Mr. Steffanoff's comments, I also  
10 share his concerns about hunting and shooting and being  
11 a hunter and shooter, I hike and ride out in that area.  
12 Last thing I want is bullets whizzing by.

13           Just for everyone's education, the State law  
14 requires that all hunters, shooters know exactly where  
15 they are at all times and abide with State laws. It  
16 requires that hunting and shooting should be safe,  
17 knowing your background and where you shoot. That, of  
18 course, does not make allowances for the occasional  
19 idiot out there, those of us who are responsible are  
20 careful and do it in a legal manner.

21           First of all, I have to say that I fully  
22 support any new trails and access ideas. I use these  
23 trails, I think the trail head of Dutch Charlie is an  
24 excellent idea, perfect place, road is wide, can get in  
25 easy, save people a long boring trek down to Dutch

1 Charlie. The Sloan property would be a great location  
2 for a trail head prior to the Forest Service acquiring  
3 the Sloan property. You risk lead poisoning if you try  
4 to wander around there --

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I ask you to slow just a  
6 little bit.

7 MR. BARMORE: Certainly. My wife tells me  
8 that, also.

9 I do support the trail head on the outside of  
10 the Sloan Property, would be a great place for one. On  
11 the scenic highway idea, I've heard this a couple of  
12 times, I think this is a nice idea. I'm concerned  
13 about what does this mean, we would be allowed to widen  
14 the road to four lanes, if necessary. We need safe  
15 passing lanes.

16 We would be allowed, for example, through  
17 Garner Valley where the road is straight, there's a lot  
18 of trees along the side of the road with the cars having  
19 to bend into it. People have been injured and killed,  
20 that road needs clearing along the side of the road to  
21 make it safe. I personally have hit that shoulder  
22 several times to avoid head-ons. Does the scenic  
23 highway designation prohibit CalTrans from clearing  
24 those shoulders? That's some ideas.

25 Signage on the upper end of the Monument would

1 be a great idea, people get up there and not know where  
2 to go or what to do when they get there, the roads  
3 around there have visitors wandering around the Pinyon  
4 Flats, wondering where to go so signage putting in the  
5 right designation saying, "This is here," and, "This is  
6 there," get them to see what they wanted to see and get  
7 them there would be wonderful.

8 And finally, in her presentation Connell made  
9 that reference to some point in time Congress is going  
10 to be given some sort of communication about the  
11 recommendation in that there would be a recommendation  
12 that the public would like to see Palm Canyon be a wild  
13 and scenic river and wilderness expanded around Pyramid  
14 Peak.

15 How can I be so sure my comment opposing scenic  
16 designation would be of equal weight in that  
17 communication? Can anybody answer that?

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Sure.

19 MR. BARMORE: That's it.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. I have no other  
21 names on my list or request to speak. Is there anybody  
22 else that wishes to speak before the Committee today?  
23 We have two questions raised. Perhaps in the next two  
24 minutes we can respond to them.

25 MS. DUNNING: Connell Dunning, BLM. In

1 response to your question a forum that you would get  
2 your public comment out for the wild scenic designation  
3 and already the wilderness designation is the forum of  
4 the Forest process, I know you're part of. Those are  
5 designations that will be made by the Forest Service in  
6 their land and plan and brought forth or not brought  
7 forward depending on the outcome. Those are the  
8 designations that are right now what we're looking at to  
9 be part of the Monument plan and they are being covered  
10 in other planning processes.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. Jim, there's been some  
12 question as to the hunting ability throughout the  
13 Monument. Could you address that please?

14 MR. KENNA: Okay. Legislation does address  
15 that. There's no intent in the Monument plan to  
16 address -- I mean there's the opportunity that came  
17 forth as an issue. The legislation, I think, is fairly  
18 exclusive on hunting and does not modify any hunting  
19 regulations largely to state process.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I believe what you're saying  
21 is that you don't change the status quo unless we  
22 suggest changes?

23 MR. KENNA: Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So there is already hunting,  
25 fishing, is there those sport items?

1                   MR. KENNA: Right, I think it's appropriate.  
2     One gentleman raised the issue of shooting. Probably  
3     the question should have an answer in the planning  
4     process. To my knowledge, I don't know of any proposal  
5     to eliminate or limit hunting anyway.  
6                   CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: And the holes in the maps?  
7                   MR. KENNA: The holes in the map are actually  
8     there already. A map that addresses that issue, land  
9     ownership or status map where you see basically see the  
10    private lands.  
11                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Connell, can we get a copy of  
12    that?  
13                  MS. DUNNING: You can have it, sure.  
14                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Isn't it the land ownership  
15    map you passed around, Bill?  
16                  CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think that's that. We  
17    have seven minutes to maintain the public comments.  
18    Public, is there any question that the Committee member  
19    would like to make to the public comments or anything  
20    else?  
21                  MS. GONZALES-LYONS: You were talking about the  
22    map, I think that's the one Bill has. Is there a way to  
23    get a condensed one?  
24                  MR. HAVERT: Yeah, we have a seven by seven  
25    version of that. We can make copies available.

1 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: And, also, some of the  
2 people in the community, can they have a copy of that?

3 MR. HAVERT: Yes.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We are looking at a potential  
5 expenditure item here, it was suggested that the map  
6 that Bill passed out would be reduced to 7 by 10, passed  
7 out to the Committee. Barbara was asking if that could  
8 be made available to the public?

9 MS. GEORGE: Let me find out what the best way  
10 is to do it. I'm sure it could be available to the  
11 public either allowed it on the internet. I'm not sure  
12 could you do that. Connell?

13 MS. DUNNING: There's already a map that's on  
14 the internet, that's the same map that was given to you  
15 and that's in your packet. I think that map was updated  
16 at in 2000. It shows land ownership broken down between  
17 Forest Service, BLM, State Plan fine better land, Indian  
18 land slowed down. If that's adequate, it can be  
19 downloaded off the internet site.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Anyone else?  
21 In the Committee's mind, we have met twice now. Are we  
22 doing this right? Is there something that is missing?

23 Bill?

24 MR. HAVERT: I would like to suggest that  
25 before the next meeting, we will be in a position to



1 spend a little bit more time on some of the substance.  
2 The working groups would have a chance to meet and start  
3 addressing some of the questions in here, and just in  
4 terms of the schedule, it would be nice to have a  
5 standard discussion on some of the issues.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I would suggest that we take  
7 15 minutes off the lunch period and make it one hour. I  
8 think the public was pretty much available with one  
9 hour. Does anyone have a problem with that? So the  
10 staff suggests a lunch period of one hour instead of one  
11 hour 15 minutes.

12 MS. HENDERSON: Yes. Are we going to, at an  
13 aerial fashion, get a schedule of the working group  
14 meetings? It was so erratic last month I understand the  
15 complexities and problems, but I wasn't able to attend  
16 any of the meetings, September 1, but if I have an idea  
17 of when these meetings are scheduled.

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I have asked that each of the  
19 work group heads get to me as soon as possible. They  
20 have scheduled meetings, when I get those I immediately  
21 forward them to all Committee members. If you suggest a  
22 better way than that, I am certainly open to that. So  
23 we will continue then and ask the work group heads to as  
24 soon as they are able to ascertain their meeting, time  
25 and date they get it to us.

1 MS. DUNNING: Yeah, I would like to suggest  
2 protocol including the date and the location, who the  
3 contract person is, and getting that information to  
4 Danella, as well. Then we can use Danella, too, as the  
5 contact point to inform BLM staff, so we know when those  
6 meetings are, too. Also, would you like these on the  
7 internet site?

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: First, Danella is on the  
9 distribution, the same hit list Committee, so she  
10 automatically gets it, however, if she's never here.

11 MS. GEORGE: That there's an issue with that,  
12 I'm sorry. Again on an administrative record, if it  
13 walks like a duck and talks, acts like a duck, I don't  
14 think it's appropriate for the designated federal  
15 official to be recommending to a task group or work  
16 group meeting. I think that needs to come from a  
17 network of people or staff figuring out how you guys are  
18 going to connect that to the Forest Service, BLM, on our  
19 e-mail.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: More than glad to put this  
21 there.

22 MS. GEORGE: Yeah, I would rather error on  
23 safety.

24 MS. DUNNING: That's fine.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you. Let me know who

1     you want to know on that, and give that to Danella, and  
2     she will continue to get them.  
3     Your had a second comment, Connell?  
4             MS. DUNNING: I did?  
5             CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: You did.  
6             MS. DUNNING: Oh, I don't remember the second  
7     comment -- oh, the internet. Would you want these to  
8     aid in getting out information out to the public? Would  
9     you like these on internet sites, when it is  
10    operational?  
11            CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes. Anything that can get  
12    the word out to as many people possible, what we are  
13    doing, whether it's the work group or this Committee is  
14    very, very, very attractive.  
15            I would remind each of the work group heads  
16    that I have sent you a list of people that I have  
17    specifically asked you to notify, and I ask you that  
18    continue to notify those people. That is your position,  
19    of course, you have been doing it, basically, when you  
20    informed me that you have been doing that to them. We  
21    are continuing to use e-mails, it's pretty good, it  
22    works.  
23            Hearing no more, the hour at 4:00 o'clock has  
24    been reached, so I hereby close the public comments and  
25    entertain a motion to adjourn.

1 MS. HENDERSON: Yes.  
2 (Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.)  
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